

**THE PARISH OF ST. EUGENE PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES – December 5, 2019**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Fr. Pat Cahill, Julieth Duarte, Sabine Dieringer, Lynn Harvey Heth, Karen Bradley, Eric Jedd, Deliz Romero, Rick Lober for Terry Yeager, Carl Dobson

**EXCUSED:** Susan Klein Russo, Deacon Mike Zboyovski, Ron Shigley, Nancy Maldonado

**GUESTS:** Holly Nolan and Bruce Cahoon

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- Meeting was called to order at 6:22p and an opening prayer was said by Fr. Pat.
- November Minutes were approved with minor revisions.
- This Sunday (12/8) there will be a Spanish Mass at 11:30p and will be a big celebration sponsored by the Spanish community with festivities in honor of our Lady of Guadeloupe.
- CYPC Report: 2 new members, Joe Stritch and Pat Irmen; next meeting will discuss next steps in 2020. Expected late December release by the Diocese of Charlotte of the names of priests with credible allegations of abuse. Diocese is sponsoring a 24/7 abuse report hotline. Diocese would like to use St. Eugene as a model for other parishes in the diocese.
- Church Operations: Mechelle has been promoted to Parish Administrator which entails additional bookkeeping roles as well as many other operational responsibilities. Diocesan Support Appeal donations are a little under from last year so our rebate is less. This, in turn, affects the priest retirement assessment. Overall, we are in a financially sound position but could be better. Lots of upcoming expenses that includes the hiring of a new music director. Great candidates, narrowed to 3. Final decision will depend greatly how much we can afford. Suggestion to provide quarterly financial reports to parishioners. Diocese requires bi-yearly financial report. Decision to provide Quarterly Reports with YTD comparison.
- Suggestion Box:
  1. *Tops to garbage/trash cans should be cleaned as needed – yucky!* - Work order submitted
  2. *There are lights out in the gathering space.* - Work order submitted
  3. *Bring back the summer's Allelujah! We love it so much!! God Bless.* - Mass parts change with liturgical season. It will return when the season is appropriate.
  4. *Be nice to have lemonade to drink.* - We do regularly provide lemonade. Perhaps it was out that one time.
  5. *How about a Sunday Mass schedule of 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 to relieve the parking issue between 7:30 and 9:00 Masses?* - The challenge is that we need to maintain the time for Faith Formation classes--which is 200 students from pre-K - 5. We could add Mass, if we had the numbers to justify.
  6. *Our Church directory was last published in 2013. I think it is time to publish a new one. We have added (and lost) many new parish members in the past years. When we do publish a new one, I would suggest we get an additional say 100 copies to be given to new members when they register. Sincerely, Jack Witzel, also known as Karen Bradley's father.* – Looking at 2020 to re-do directory. Will use a new church directory contractor. Estimated one-month project. We can have digital or hard-copy. Sabine will help Father Pat with this project.
- Other Announcements:
  1. We will start putting a sign warning of icy ground on the water bridge due to the winter season.
  2. The entire outside of our building has been pressure washed for mold and calcium deposit.
  3. Parishioners with smartphones are encouraged to use My Parish app as a secure log-in website to access information about our parish.
- Natural Family Planning Classes online done by Julieth. Starting in Jan. 2020, Julieth will provide full training over a 3-month period which will be held as one session per month on a Saturday. Training will be provided in Spanish only.

- Care of Creation report: Parishioner, Laura Paneris, would like to start a Youth C of C. Council gives their support.
- Significant Upcoming Dates:
  1. Our Lady of Guadeloupe Fiesta on Dec. 8, 2019 @ 1:30a Mass followed by Fiesta
  2. La Posada on Dec. 21, 2019 @ 7p
  3. Christmas Eve (12/24) Mass Schedule: 4p and 8p
  4. Christmas Day (12/25) Mass Schedule: 10a and 12noon in Spanish
  5. Dec. 27, 2019 – 9a Mass
  6. Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Dec. 31, 2019 – 4p and Jan. 1, 2020 – Mass schedule is 10a and 12noon in Spanish. No 5:30p Mass
- More Opportunities for Helping Others:
  1. Haywood Street – every Wednesday.
  2. There will be a Sock Drive coordinated with the Respect to Life ministry probably in the spring.
  3. Hall Fletcher Elementary School in East-West Asheville is in need of underwear, pants, shorts, etc. for Pre-K – 5.
- Prayers for Joseph Jugis, Father of Bishop Peter Jugis who passed away Tuesday morning 12/3.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:38p.
- Next meeting: Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> 6:15p is not a meeting but a post-Christmas party for Council members and their families at 828 Family Pizzeria. RSVPs will be required.

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by Lynn Harvey Heth. *If you have any questions or need additional information about anything on the minutes, please reach out to a Parish Council member. All Parish Council members' information is posted on the wall in the Fellowship Hall.*