

**THE PARISH OF ST. EUGENE PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES – February 5, 2020**

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

**EXCUSED:** Deacon Mike Zboyovski, Ron Shigley, Nancy Maldonado, Carl Dobson

**GUESTS:** Bill Maloney, Mechelle Kobar, Joe Stritch

---

- Meeting was called to order at 6:22p and an opening prayer was said by Fr. Pat.
- December Minutes were approved.
- OLD BUSINESS:
  - Rachel Hansbury – New Choir Director; transition going well; announce her at all the masses and a small reception is planned.
- New Business:
  - Ron Shigley leaving Pastoral Council. Rick can take over Ron's remaining time. Pat Irmen to take over for Terry's remaining term (March, April, May) which ends in June 2020.
  - CYPC Update – St. Gabriel (2<sup>nd</sup> largest parish in the Diocese) reached out to get ideas on how to proceed in their parish. Fr. Winslow (2<sup>nd</sup> in command to Bishop Jugis & with a background of investigating sexual abuse by clergy) will meet with CYPC. Date and time still being finalized. Waiting for Bishop Jugis to give give four meeting dates to choose from. Joe Stritch gave presentation on WATCH (We Are The Church – Coalition of Catholics throughout the US addressing sexual abuse by clergy) letter. Current goal for St. Eugene is to get Bishop Jugis to garner USCCB's support in June 2020 meeting for a laity group of five to have oversight and guidance on USCCB's investigation of sexual abuse. CYPC needs support from Council to move forward in approaching Bishop Jugis with letter. Draft letter will be distributed to Council for review and comments. CYPC will create a deadline for comments. (2/19?)
  - Arts & Environment in need of chair and vice chair to represent both Spanish and non-Spanish parishioners; Critical positions with significant responsibilities to set the tone of our worship in our church. Council discussed ways to recruit.
  - Security update. Fr. Pat met with John Dieringer to discuss ways to proceed and pinpoint the vulnerabilities in our church. Suggested Rich Anderson will chair, along with Alan Wyatt. Fr. Pat will ask them. There are parishioners that are or were in law enforcement, including retired MPs. Susan suggested consulting with church atty. Security assessment is free from local government. Rick Lober volunteered to help Rich Anderson. Fr. will check to see security policies for our private school, Asheville Catholic School. New Security group should check with Diocese for existing programs/plans for crises. Bill Maloney suggests making this Security task as a high priority.
  - Care of Creation update – Bill Maloney gave report which included: 4/22 – Earth Day; St. Eugene Parish (SEP) seen as leader locally and nationwide; SEY workshop on climate change last Jan was well received; *MountainExpress* featured SEP; Montreat meeting June 6-7, 2020 focusing on going green. Suggestion for CoC to give presentation in all big groups/Ministries at SEP. Exploring possibility of geothermal for our church building. Cost still unknown based on property findings.
  - No more Prayer Ministry. No more Crafty Ladies Group.
  - Eric looking at proposal from Duke Energy on lighting for the entire church, air handlers, heating and cooling. Holding off on heating and cooling portion until more information on geothermal.

- Suggestion Box – None.
- Virtus Training – Lynn reported monthly trainings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month starting Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> from 6p – 9p in the fellowship hall. Lynn also suggests that as leaders in our church, Council members should regularly walk around the church (building and grounds) to ensure that “dark spots” are safe. Goal is active diligence in creating and maintaining Safe Environments in our church.
- Mechelle asks for suggestions on how to stop permanent parking in the circle. It is a safety hazard and against fire laws. Hospitality Ministry to put notes on cars? Reminder that 939 Merrimon is available for parking during masses.
- OTHER BUSINESS:
  - Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, Catholic News Herald article will feature SEP and the work of the CYPC
  - New parochial administrator for St. Margaret Mary Church is Fr. Brian Becker; Not permanent but final decision will be made in July
  - Deacon Mike Stout to be buried on Saturday.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:45p.
- Next meeting: March 4<sup>th</sup> @ 6:15p.

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.*