

**THE PARISH OF ST. EUGENE PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES – July 1, 2020**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Fr. Pat Cahill, Deacon Mike Zboyovski, Sabine Dieringer, Lynn Harvey Heth, Karen Bradley, Eric Jedd, Deliz Romero, Pat Irmen, Rick Lober, Raul Cervantes

**EXCUSED:** Carl Dobson, Nancy Maldonado, Ashley Torres

**GUESTS:** Vicki Ransom and Sue Koesters

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- Meeting was called to order at 5:35p and an opening prayer was said by Fr. Pat.
- June Minutes were approved.
- Sabine gave a welcome to new members and encouraged volunteers such as a Spanish translator.
- Rick gave another update on the status of masses since opening. Approximately (~) 66 in attendance but an impressive ~130-160 during Spanish masses. Initial plans seem to be working with little tweaking. Fr. Pat says the next major step is opening daily mass 8a, Mon.-Thurs. Need eucharistic ministers for Thurs. morning. No adding 11:30a Sun. mass yet since cleaning after each mass is a big task. Communion still outside since weather is permitting. Ideas for indoor communion being considered. So far, positive responses from parishioners to masses. For 5:30p Sat. mass, the tithing basket is forgotten. Fr. Pat said that Mechelle will send an email to the Captains of Hospitality Ministers (HM) to remind them to remove/empty the tithing basket.
- Financial Status – Fr. Pat said that parishioners were signing up for electronic tithing. SE has been underbudget in expenses and donations, but all base expenses were being covered. SE is producing more electricity than using. Fr. Pat said that if we had a matching pavilion, we could hold daily mass there. However, that is a \$350K expense and we only have \$100K available right now. Also, mid-July will give us a better picture of where we are financially as books close for the fiscal year.
- Sue Koesters gave an update on the current work of the Peace & Justice Committee (P&JC)—given the current environment in our country surrounding heightened awareness & stress over racial injustices. Before COVID-19, P&JC was looking at the topic of racial injustice but meetings were halted due to the pandemic. Fr. Pat suggested the Racial Healing Handbook and going through that like a Bible Study Group held at SE. He suggested that Action Items developed should be seen as continuing education. Fr. Pat and LynnHH suggested looking towards young people in fully understanding the meaning of Black Lives Matters. Although All Lives Matter, Blacks, particularly, have been disproportionately targeted and hurt. Perhaps creating a subgroup of P&JC to help funnel/guide P&JC? Fr. Pat will announce the creation of this subgroup to garner interest for volunteers. In addition, a motion was made by Rick to announce in the bulletin and other social media. Pat seconded. Unanimous vote.
- Parish Council Member Commissioning Ceremony will be done at 9a mass on Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Annual Parish Picnic will be held on Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> from 1p – 5p. If we have to fully cancel the event, the deposit given to Camp Rockmont will be transferred to the 2021 Picnic.
- Safety Ministry – Rick said that there was nothing to report since activity stopped due to the pandemic. Likely this project will be placed on hold for a couple of months.
- Duke Energy Proposal – Proposal is in 2 parts—lights & HVAC systems. Eric assessed cost effectiveness vs. purchase of needed supplies and concluded that SE should move forward. The ~\$20K expense for lights should pay for itself within a few years. A new HVAC system for ~\$40K is probably not the best investment. An area expert is currently doing a geo-thermal study. Eric will follow-up with that expert. Deacon Mike said that this might be an opportune time to reassess and make better the overall lighting. Eric will follow-up with a lighting designer since they do not charge for designing in hopes that we purchase lights from their company.
- Child and Youth Protection Committee (CYPC) – 1<sup>st</sup> meeting since the pandemic was held via zoom on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Action items included reaching out to the national organization, WATCH (We Are The CHurch) and re-engaging with the Diocese. Diocese was sent an email two days ago and now awaiting response. LynnHH reports that face-to-face Virtus Meetings are still on hold; however, online training

still going on and can be accessed 24/7. LynnHH will send out email with information to all Council members so that those that have not gotten Virtus training can proceed online.

- Update 2020 Calendar – Mechelle working on this.
- Deacon Mike reports that HM Training for Homebound are scheduled for Thurs. mornings. However, there are now liability issues to consider surrounding getting or giving COVID-19 unknowingly. In addition, what is the format? Meeting inside the home or outside the home? Deacon Mike will research and will give a report later on his findings.
- Asheville Catholic School – For now, the school will open on time and hope to start “normally.” If not, Plan B is to divide the school into 2 groups: pre-k through 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Each group will rotate attendance on a weekly basis. Plan C is virtual teaching. There is currently a Task Force at ACS that is guiding the school on planning for the 2020-2021 school year.
- SE Parish Information Handbook – LynnHH was gathering information and updating but got stuck on the Spanish information. Deliz Romero and Raul Cervantes will help update that information.
- Care of Creation (CoC) – Vicki said that no meeting has been held for a while but will hold a meeting soon. Beside COVID-19, there have been member concerns such as other health issues, etc. They are applying for a grant to include the 5<sup>th</sup> graders and the Friendship Garden. Still need funding for a recycling center for SE. The Friendship Garden is going well, harvesting and donating harvested food to Food Bank. Need new leader since Cynthia is vacating the post. CoC will be working with P&JC on racial injustice issues.
- Church Directory – Wait until Fall.
- Meeting was adjourned at 6:47p after prayer.
- Next meeting: Will be on Wed., Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30p in the parish conference room.

Minutes prepared by Lynn Harvey Heth and respectfully submitted by Ashley Torres. *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.*