

THE PARISH OF ST. EUGENE PASTORAL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES – Dec 5th, 2023

IN ATTENDANCE: Fr. Pat Cahill; Rick Lober (Chair, 6/24); Buster Brown (Vice-Chair, 6/25); Shawna Hoffert (Sec, 6/25); Jesus Gamez (6/24); James Greene (6/24); Pat Irmien (6/24); Charles James (6/25); Ed Korte (6/24); Abel Lomeli-Garcia (6/26); Michael MacCauley (6/26); Joe Stritch (6/26); Laurie Zone-Smith (6/26)

NOT PRESENT: Dcn Mike Zboyovsik; Dcn John Langlois; Laura Morales (6/25)

GUESTS: MaryEllen Shepherd (Parish Life Administrator)

- Meeting in Social Hall was called to order at 6:42pm and an opening prayer was said by Fr Pat.
- Sept Minutes were approved; Michael 1st, Pat 2nd. No meeting was held in October due to Fr Pat's traveling schedule. No meeting was held in November due to too many absences with illnesses, etc.
- Sanctuary Project Update – Subcommittee members (Joe, Michael, Buster)
 - Les Wicker, a talented stained-glass artist, designed some renditions of stained glass that could be added to the rectangular windows in the sanctuary and how the brick wall could be "beautified" with paint
 - Buster presented a survey sheet with many ideas that the council members prioritized
- "Pink House"/Adoration Chapel Name – Rick
 - Consensus that area would be called "St. Eugene's Adoration Chapel"/"La Capilla de Adoracion de San Eugenio"; motioned by Michael, second by Joe; passed
- Ministry Fair Recap – General Discussion
 - Awareness campaign was a success; tough weekend with co-celebration of Confirmation, but did bring ministry awareness to the youth that were being confirmed so they can get involved.
 - Ed suggested that after the holidays, maybe during Lenten season, could re-present when people are less busy/overwhelmed to get more responses to the call for help
 - Continuing presentation; placing banners up all year in Social Hall w/info about ministry and contact info of leader to call if want to volunteer
 - Generational differences: how to present to and involve the younger generations? Keeping website up-to-date; links to Facebook page for each ministry?
 - Coffee/donuts starting up in January after 9am; cookies/juice after 5pm Mass; so if banners were up by that time would help. Currently, due to traffic congestion, cannot have a social event after 7:30am Mass.
- Six Commission Assignments – General Discussion
 - Smaller, more permanent assignments of parishioners that report to MaryEllen and Fr Pat and have more direct control and knowledge of the commission and the ministries under its purview
- Parking Congestion between 7:30/9:00 Masses – Fr Pat
 - Suggestion to try blocking off the angled parking at ACS so traffic can flow better on Culvern
 - Requesting on heavily attended weekends that people park at SteinMart or other parking lots and make a "pilgrimage" across the street
 - Changing Mass times, possibly 7:15-8:15 and 9:15-10:15 with CCD 10:15-11:00?
- Security Incident – Rick
 - About 3wks ago on a Sunday, after the 11:30 Mass, a parishioner's four tires were slashed in the parking lot behind the church that belongs to another business; reported to police
- Suggestion Box – Shawna
 - All were read and discussed and passed on to appropriate members to "deal with" and contact the people that wrote the suggestions
 - Request that USCCB Prayers of the Faithful be used during Respect Life month (Oct). Laurie made a motion for those petitions to be used. Rick asked Fr Pat if he would just agree to do so and Fr Pat agreed, so no motion was made.

- New/Other Business or Upcoming Events
 - Bears/trash cans; new location, new cans, new shed to lock them in? – going to ask Salvador to look into
 - James noted that Fr Doug announced people outside the church are begging after Mass; church’s position is to direct these people to Catholic Charities or St Vincent de Paul for crisis assistance. Can publish the card in the bulletin with the organizations/contact info to hand out (see below). Rick noted county number is “211” and they can refer to all these other organizations.
- Closing Prayer was said by Fr Pat and meeting was adjourned at 8:15p.
- Next meeting: Will be on Jan 16th, 2024 at 8:23p in parlor room.

Important Assistance/Help Information

Saint Vincent de Paul	775-1933	MountainCARE	277-3399
First Call for Help	225-4357	Mountain Housing	
ABCCM Ministries	259-5300	Opportunity	254-4030 x115
ABCCM Shelter		Salvation Army	253-4723
(downtown)	259-5333	Section 8 Housing	257-2653
ABCCM Women’s Shelter	259-5365	Western Carolina	
A-Hope	252-8883	Rescue Mission	254-0471
Asheville Housing Authority	258-1222	Women’s Resource	
Catholic Charities	255-0146	Center Mission Hosp.	213-8250
Eblen Foundation	255-3066	Help Referral Service	211
Help Mate	254-0516		

In my misfortune I called, the LORD heard and saved me from all distress. Psalm 35:7

Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by Shawna Hoffert. *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.*