

**THE PARISH OF ST. EUGENE PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES – July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Fr. Pat Cahill; Deacon Mike Zboyovski; 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 Irmen (6/24); Charles James (6/25); Abel Lomeli-Garcia (6/26); Laura Morales (6/25); Joe Stritch (6/26); Laurie Zone-Smith (6/26);

**NOT PRESENT:** Dcn John Langlois (excused); Ed Korte (sick); Michael MacCauley (6/26); Mechelle Kobar

**GUESTS:** Karen & Matt Bradley; Bill Maloney

- 
- Meeting was called to order at 7:35p and an opening prayer was said by Fr Pat.
  - Presentation and Approval of June meeting minutes – Shawna; Pat & Buster motioned to accept
  - Introductions of New Parish Council Members – Rick
    - Abel Lomeli-Garcia
    - Laurie Zone-Smith
    - Joe Stritch
    - Michael MacCauley
  - Walking With Moms In Need – Karen Bradley/Mary Head
    - Started last spring; program of US program of Bishops (Committee of Pro Life activities)
    - Parenting/pregnant moms in need can turn to the parish community, helps parishes refer and support moms
    - 5 phases of the program (1. Core team assembly 2. Inventory of resources/centers in community, where gaps exist 3. identify and assess how to meet needs, 4. Share with and communicate to parish)
    - Priority of prayer, weekly mass intentions, members of parish to pray for program/people/life, educate parish where to refer moms in need, enlist more members
    - Mentoring process of parents
    - Collect diapers/wipes for donation
    - Provide info about volunteer opportunities
    - Ask for support for material/financial support from the parish council
  - St. Eugene Parish Eucharistic Renewal – Fr. Pat
    - Three-year focus; 1<sup>st</sup> year was diocesan (Eucharistic congress), 2<sup>nd</sup> year is parish renewal; 3<sup>rd</sup> year is the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis
    - Council members shared thoughts
    - How do we educate and renew for the individual what is the Eucharist, the liturgy about the Eucharist
    - Plans: display of Eucharistic miracles in our parish hall (80 displays, three weekends in September, three weekends in October); public adoration chapel for private devotion; personal conversions and active full participation of the members of the parish; come to a daily life experience/reality
    - Could the renovation of the sanctuary help return focus to the Eucharist? New furniture coming from closing church in Maine
    - Youth Mass (Monday nights); youth catechesis and relevance, age-appropriate materials
    - Digital messaging, social media; lists of resources to get closer to the Eucharist
    - Continuing Ed w/Dcn John
    - Fr Pat wants this to be THE theme of Parish Council this 2023-2024 year
  - Update on potential new Parish Discussion Group – James Greene
    - Inspired by Synod talks, wanted to be able to ask tough questions and really talk about it, a type of catharsis
    - Still need a consensus for meeting times
  - Lector training for Youth ministers – Rick
    - Working w/Raul Cervantes, made announcements at Sunday 7am mass, seeking interested youth to get them more involved in the liturgy of the Mass
    - Working with Guadalupe (new religious education minister) to reach out with Faith Formation to find more interested youth

- Suggestion Box – Shawna
  - A thank you to Fr Pagel for his homilies and care when he is at our parish
  - Concern about grounds, weeds; offer to donate for a pizza party if youth interested in a grounds-keeping day (Work day is scheduled)
- Other Business or Upcoming events
  - Fr Pat is going to start UNCA Mass in August on the 27th at 6pm, (will be every last Sunday of month, Highsmith Center, Lookout Rm); parishioners are welcome, pizza will be served after mass; Carlton Smith is heading up help at UNCA (Aug – Apr, skipping December)
  - Survey for the council that Fr Pat asked us to respond to about financial contributions, part of his doctorate class
- Closing Prayer was said by Fr Pat and meeting was adjourned at 8:54p.
- Next meeting: Will be on August 15th at 7:30p in Parish Hall.

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.*