

St. Mary's Parish Council
Monday, May 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM
St. Mary's School Library

Minutes

Present: Fr. Brian McGrath, Fr. Jacob Janczyk, Chad Klapes, Tom, Burke, Holly Cusack (*ex officio*), Charles Houff, Richard Lacey, TJ Ryan (*ex officio*)

Absent: Zeke Chichester, Leslee Durfee (*ex officio*), Bill Fiske, Jesse Gallego, Lori Koperek, Erin Pollard

- I. Opening Prayer and recitation of Parish Council Mission Statement
- II. The Minutes of the April 28 meeting were reviewed and no amendments made
- III. Discussion about the Parish Council's role with regard to Fr. Brian's upcoming move
 - a. Comments and thank you made regarding Fr. Brian's upcoming move to St. Agnes, Dalton (Chad)
 - b. Recaps from various groups and commissions should be submitted to be included in the annual report and to be given to Fr. Matthew Guidi to assist with his transition
 - c. Fr. Matthew will be coming to Lee on Monday, June 2 to be given a tour of the churches, etc.
 - d. Proposal of an additional Parish Council meeting to be held in the summer/August to assist Fr. Matthew with his transition (Fr. Brian)
- IV. Calendar
 - a. Review of upcoming events
 - b. Working on completing 2025-2026 calendar with Leslee and Chad
- V. Old Business
 - a. Eucharistic Procession- no new information
 - i. Wait to hold Eucharistic Procession either in the fall or in 2026 after consultation and approval from Fr. Matthew (Fr. Brian)
 - b. Eric had submitted a draft for the promotion of *Time, Talent, and Treasure*
 - i. Bulletin and pre-Mass announcements should be submitted to Leslee and included several weeks before the event (Fr. Brian)
 - c. *Walk with One* is continuing to develop with Chad and Erin
 - d. Parish Council membership needs to be reviewed and two of the twelve seats remain open
 - i. This is something that should be reviewed with Fr. Matthew (Fr. Brian)
 - e. EMC and Lector training was held on May 5 which added volunteers at all three churches
 - f. This is something that should be advertised and held again in the near future (Fr. Brian)

VI. Reports from Commissions

- a. Discussion of the role of reports
 - i. Desire to have reports submitted by various heads of commissions and locations to be distributed and reviewed at future Parish Council meetings
- b. Reports
 - i. Buildings (Fr. Brian)
 - a) St. Mary, Lee
 - (1) Renovation of the church will not be done before Fr. Brian's July 1 departure
 - (2) About \$80,000 has been raised
 - (3) Expected cost is several hundreds of thousands of dollars
 - b) St. Joseph, Stockbridge- no business
 - c) St. Mary of the Lakes, Otis
 - (1) Repairs are being done on the exterior stairs
 - (2) Handrails need to be replaced
 - (3) Electrical and breakers need to be replaced
 - d) St. Mary's School
 - (1) New windows are currently being installed
 - e) St. Mary Cemetery- no business
 - f) St. Joseph Cemetery
 - (1) Cemetery arch work needs to be completed
 - (2) Project will cost \$80,000
 - (a) Town of Stockbridge has pledged \$40,000, half of which has been paid
 - (b) \$20,000 from St. Joseph Hospitality
 - (c) \$20,000 to be fundraised before July 1
 - ii. Christian Service (Richard)
 - a) *Personal Care Drive* concluding and items being distributed
 - b) This past year's service projects have all been successful
 - c) Rice Bowls raised over \$1,000
 - iii. Faith Formation (TJ)
 - a) Confirmation was held on Saturday, May 10 at St. Agnes, Dalton
 - (1) Will be combining with other parishes next year given the current confirmation numbers
 - (2) Eric and Emily Horrel (sp.) are moving
 - (a) A replacement for Emily (faith formation teacher for grades 3-5) and Eric (faith formation hall monitor) are needed
 - (3) All other faith formation teachers have committed to 2025-2026

(4) Need to scheduled beginning and end of year faith formation meetings

- iv. Health and Wellness (Chad)
 - a) Made introduction to Teresa, but need to follow up to secure more resources
 - b) Malcolm Chism (sp.) may be a good contact for AA and other support groups
- v. Latin Outreach (Chad)- no business
- vi. Young Families (Chad)
 - a) Gina Toole (sp.) and Sheila Cos... (sp.) are interested in coordinating the baptism preparation courses (Fr. Brian)
 - b) Currently, there is no pre-Cana program which dissolved in the deanery during COVID
- vii. Spiritual Life (Fr. Brian)
 - a) EMC, lector, and altar server training has all been held within the last month
 - b) Ministry to the Homebound has been updated (Fr. Jacob)
- viii. St. Joseph Church (Richard)- no business
- ix. St. Mary of the Lakes (Tom)
 - a) New music director
 - b) Preparing for summer influx
- x. St. Mary (Fr. Brian)- no business

VII. New Business

- a. End of Year BBQ for Parish Council will be held on Monday, June 16 at 6:00 PM at the rectory
 - i. The Finance Council will be invited
 - ii. Erin is organizing food, etc.
- b. Deacon John Williams will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, June 21 at 10:00 AM at St. Michael Cathedral, Springfield
 - i. This needs to be advertised in the parish bulletin
 - ii. Travel from the parish and a gift need to be organized
- c. Goodbye Reception for Fr. Brian will be held on Sunday, June 29 after the 11:00 AM Mass
 - i. Organized by Libby and Lori

VIII. 2025-2026 Parish Council Schedule reviewed (cf. Agenda from May 19 meeting for meeting dates)

IX. Closing prayer

Next Meeting: Monday, June 16 at 6:00 PM- BBQ at the parish rectory

Submitted: Fr. Jacob Janczyk