

**Church of Corpus Christi
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2017**

In attendance: Father Fitz, Steve P, Jill K, Betsy M, Mo B, Gloria LF, Phil S, Tony V, Toni L

Committee Reports

Social Justice

- Spirituality of Work program is going well.
- Lent:
 - Rice bowls (will only have a few, not an all-parish campaign)
 - Service Day: Saturday, March 18 at Twin Cities Kids in Need. Pack school supplies
 - Letter-writing (also on March 18) to state legislators re bonding bill, money is tied up and construction on Dorothy Day Center can't start. Linc Stine suggested asking CC high school students to bring letters to state reps, as they may get more attention than adults.
- Dorothy Day will need more volunteers esp. once they are in their temporary location (and food will need to be prepared in one place and transported to another for distribution)
- Catholic Charities to start offering tours of Higher Ground and other facilities. Mid-day on April 19 and May 16. Deanne Stenlund to email the CC Social Justice email list.
- Caring Hearts collection of items for homeless is going on now.
- In May, SJ committee may begin to draft a "flow chart" to establish criteria and determine if a SJ project/request meets their mission/Catholic social teaching
- Fair Trade sale went well. Plan to do more of these.
- Earth Day (April 22) – considering a CC grounds clean up
- Two state-wide legislative initiatives coming up:
 - Joint Religious Legislative Commission Feb 23 at the State Capitol (<https://www.jrlc.org/>)
 - Catholics at the Capitol March 9, starts at River Center. Need to register in advance (<https://catholicsatthecapitol.org/>)
- Giving Garden: SJ committee still not sure what they will do in 2017. Have a community garden? Possibly, since other comm gardens have waiting lists. Toni L is looking at the insurance need.

Pastoral Care

- More volunteers started to do home visits and calls as BeFrienders. Very supportive and dedicated group
- Sunrise nursing home continues to help CC PC volunteers – their staff gets Catholic residents to room on time for mass/service.

Faith Formation

- Meeting held last Sunday (Feb 5). Mo B shared strategic plan information.
- Survey results:
 - Desire for an adult retreat
 - Nurture other demographics e.g. young adults, elderly

Liturgy

- Most ministries are quieter now (post Advent/Christmas)
- Sanctuary sound system and CC hearing devices: Phil S to work with individuals on their needs, good places in sanctuary to sit for good reception. Improvements are already working. Tony V wants to help out with the sound system.
- Lectors are starting to use the railing between the ambo and the choir. Lector seating location is TBD.

Finance

- See Solar Presentation below. Also discussed Hand In Hand – see below.

Communication

- Maureen C entered events in Microsoft Outlook calendar software. She will email to Tony V, who hopes to put it on the CC website using the existing content management system.
- Digital monitor: plan is to put in a closable armoire/cabinet. Still on wheels, but safer. The existence of 2 TVs the parish already owns was pointed out (currently kept in religious ed office, in school). Can we use those to try out the digital monitor idea? E.g. during Fish Frys. Can do a trial run. Tony still needs content and should have St. Rose info, too (during Fish Fry Fridays). TVs are 1-2 years old and likely already have software needed.
- St. Rose has large screens in sanctuary. Projectors post announcements before mass and song lyrics during mass. Diane and Linda at St. Rose are coordinating those. Mo B to contact them.

Solar Presentation 2

- Apex (<http://apex-co.us/>) came to the January Finance meeting to present their solar package. They are located in St. Cloud. Pricing is more straightforward than iDEAL Energies (prior company). They only offer a 60 megawatt system.
- Proposed a fence next to the neighbors, shielding their view of the solar panels. Also proposed planting native plants around the panels.
- Apex uses some profits to help the needy in other countries. Finance liked this: it aligns with CC's SJ mission.
- Finance/Trustees are leaning to them. Considering possibly buying the system outright as there is a better return and would be paid for in 13 years. Save money now for when the boiler needs to be replaced. Savings not as heavily reliant on Made in MN lottery as iDEAL's proposal was.
- \$1,700 fee for Apex to do the initial process: check with city, Xcel, neighbors. If all goes as expected, next step after that would be to check with Archdiocese on the purchase. Apex could start the installation in spring/summer 2017.

CC Strategic Planning Team (CCSPT)

- Planning to hold a Town Hall for the parish on March 26. Need to look ahead for when Fr. Fitz retires.
- At their next meeting, plan to gather recommendations to present to groups: budget, staffing, programs, etc. (Mo B – visual graphic?)
- Stewardship: Tom V organizing a phone-a-thon. Callers will have a script and ideas is to share what is happening/invite to return to CC/remind re stewardship pledge. Callers will use CC Parish Center phones: Feb 18 @10am, Feb 20, 22, 24 @6pm.
- St. Rose used OSV this year for their stewardship drive. Their fee is based on # of parishioners. St. Rose fee was \$15,000.
- Fr. Fitz says results are positive and showing up in increased pledges and participation:
 - \$78,000 increase in pledges
 - over 50% increase in participation: from 300 families to 475 families.
 - OSV prepares all letters and envelopes (Fr. Fitz reviewed/edited prior to printing). OSV also sorts and replies to all receipts.
 - CC may use OSV next year

Hand In Hand Montessori (“H in H”)

- Conversations re future at CC continue.
- Plan of choices stands at: 1) expand, 2) leave, or 3) no change. H in H wants to expand. They love the location and the CC connection. Currently have 300 students. Want to increase to 500 (also feel they have the ability to manage that larger size population).
- CC trustees think there are positive elements for H in H expanding (e.g., add an assisted living residence). Fr. Fitz thinks an expansion could overwhelm CC. CC staff already have concerns about sharing the space.

- Everyone will meet on Feb 22: H in H, CC staff, Fr. Fitz, and CC trustees
- Having H in H on our campus costs CC money – they don't cover all their costs. Even keeping the status quo would mean issues need to be addressed.
- H in H to present to CC parish council?

Parishioner Comments

- None

Father's Comments

- Alisa Weber (avg. 15-20 hours/wk) will step down in July (help care for new grandchild). Fr. Fitz and CC staff are planning for the transition incl. formalizing a job description. Are her duties in the right place, or do they belong elsewhere?
- The Confirmation team is also transitioning, so it is good timing. Liz Russell is a possibility, currently doing some training and could move up. That would leave the Sr. High ministry open.
- Before Liz, St. Rose and CC had a combined Sr. High group – didn't mesh well.
- All job descriptions are being reviewed.

April meeting will move to April 3 (April 10 is Monday of Holy Week).