

Parish Council Minutes, Church of Corpus Christi, Monday, June 11, 2018

In Attendance: Fr. Fitzpatrick, Jill Klausung (Chair), Mo Boxrud (Vice-Chair), Betsy Madden, Judy Plante, Sandy Banaszak, Jim Colten, Kirk Enzenauer, Toni Leach (staff liaison)

Absent: Tony Valois.

Visitors: Sue Valois (staff), Alisa Weber (incoming Parish Council member), Linc Stine (parishioner)

Prayer (Jill, transition prayer)

Approval of Agenda.

Approval of Minutes: approved as is (note: approved prior to meeting via electronic consensus).

Updates:

Staffing: New staff job posting is on website; will be open until June 15. Liz Russell is receiving the applications – a few have come in. A team is to interview the candidates. No applicants yet for the Choir Director position.

Hand-in-Hand Lease: HinH has lease and is reviewing. John Piazza (CC Finance Committee) confirmed that guns are not allowed anywhere near a school. Jill brought the MN statute which referred to dangerous items. Discussion whether federal law supersedes MN statute? Either way, “no guns on campus” is in lease.

Cell Phone Tower: Confirmed what we learned via email on May 24 – City of Roseville said the tower is “no longer feasible as it will require an amendment to the zoning code.”

Parish Council Appointments: Bridget Logeais (Sr. High student) is not available to serve. Discussion again of who ran previously/might be interested to fill the two, 1-year seats: Candace Logeais, Jon Heyer (may run again for state representative), Jennifer Granick, Glenda Pereira. Jim Colten said he might reconsider serving another year if the meeting day is changed from Monday.

Because Fr. Marc’s day off is going to be Monday, next year’s Parish Council might consider changing their meeting day to Thursday. It had been Thursdays for some time before Fr. Fitz became pastor (his day off is Thursday).

Committee Reports:

Social Justice: (Kirk) Giving Garden is growing but still needs more volunteers, as weeding is hard to keep up with. SJ committee started planning more events for next year. The theme is to educate parishioners plus show them actions they can take on issues. Event ideas are:

October (10:30am mass): Youth homelessness

November (6pm mass): Affordable housing. Stewardship is also a theme this month.

February: interfaith dialogue, with a focus on Islam

March: food insecurity

Dumpster Day (June 9) was a success. 15-20 volunteers filled a dumpster of unusable items from basements of church and parish center. Boy Scouts were a great help. Several stronger volunteers helped Greg remove a large water heater that had been out of commission for 10 years or so.

Leftovers will either go to Goodwill, or Jim Colten volunteered to take them to Bridging. Kept some durable medical equipment (e.g. wheelchairs) for parish use.

Liturgy: Sue V asked PC: How should she reach out to ministries in light of the mass time changes? PC brainstormed ideas:

- contact St. Rose. Can we collaborate, esp. at 4:30pm mass, to share ministry duties? Some Corpus 5pm ministers are willing to serve there on an interim basis, to give our 5pm parishioners some comfort and familiarity.
 - o Music will be tricky. Can the choirs switch? Having the same music for the mass parts will make it easier for Fr. Marc.
 - o Sue has names of St. Rose ministry coordinators to reach out to.
 - o Pair up Corpus and St. Rose lectors?
- Corpus parishioners are feeling skittish, are on high alert. Feeling a high sense of loss. How can we make room for everyone? Even though “your” mass time didn’t change, we all need to adapt to make room.
- Surprise that in some conversations with 5pm parishioners, many plan to go to different churches: not St. Rose, and not “en masse” to one church.
- Should the 6pm mass be Corpus only? Or prioritize Corpus Christi involvement? Some ministers who are St. Rose parishioners have volunteered to step back. Discussion and debate about this topic. It would be a slippery slope to prioritize Corpus and push away St. Rose at the 6pm mass.
- Ministers may have to revamp their rotation schedule, where instead of always serving on the 2nd and 4th Sunday (for example), they may be on every 5-6 weeks. With fewer masses, there will be fewer opportunities to continue in your current ministry. 5pm ushers especially feel “lost.” We should offer opportunities in other ministries where we have needs, such as helping at the Fish Fry dinners.
- Talk to the 5pm ministers face to face – this allows healing. Sue will email all 5pm ministers and will be available after all masses this weekend.
- Call the 5pm ministers.
- The first 6 months of change are a critical time – if it’s going to go well in the long run, these first 6 months need to go well.
- We have always needed greeters at each mass, we need more now.
- Send short email blasts about how the two parishes will work together, who to find when.
 - o Corpus uses email (has Constant Contact email software), website, and mail to communicate with parishioners. St. Rose has email addresses for only 300/1100 parishioners, so email is not effective.

Transition to new pastor. We asked Fr. Fitz to clarify Fr. Marc's assignment as Parochial Administrator, and other information learned in the Catholic Spirit (<http://thecatholicspirit.com/archdiocese/appointments/appointments-june-7-2018/>).

- It is common for a first-year pastor to be appointed as a Parochial Administrator. Under canon law, a Parochial Administrator can be moved by the Archbishop. The Archbishop cannot move a Pastor until the 6-year term is up <<can someone confirm/correct this?>>.
- After 1 year, it is typical that the Parochial Administrator is appointed Pastor.
- Fr. Jonathan Kelly is on the staff at St. John Vianney (seminary). His job at Corpus and St. Rose will be to help with one mass per weekend.

A letter about the mass time changes is going to all parishioners from Fr. Fitz, likely received by Monday, June 18.

Mo B said that Fr. Marc may take a hit from the mass time changes. Some parishioners feel he avoided making the mass time decision. We need to make it clear that both PCs and Fr. Fitz decided on the changes.

Judy P also recommended that a brief, factual explanation of what we know so far to be published in this weekend's bulletin.

We also discussed the recent news about the Archdiocesan settlement, especially the part where \$3 million is expected in contributions from parishes. Fr. Fitz said the key to the settlement was the channeling injunction as it means the Archdiocese cannot be sued again.

About the parish contribution, the Archdiocese hope is that parishes with claims against them will contribute. St. Rose has a claim; Corpus Christi does not. The mediator for the settlement said that if parishes contribute, it shows good faith. Both St. Rose and Corpus feel abused because false claims were allowed to stand and there has been no apology from the lawyers who brought the claims. Some parishes have already contributed. We asked that this information about the settlement wait at least a week as there is already too much going on, too much change.

Planning for Town Hall. Linc Stine and Kathy DiGiorno will co-facilitate. Due to availability of PC and Town Hall leaders, decided to hold the meeting on Monday, June 18 from 7:00-8:30pm (some PC members advocated meeting after either 5pm or 9:30am mass). We recommended having an email announcement.

Format:

Welcome & prayer

Introductions (PC members who plan to be there: Sandy, Mo, Jill, Jim)

How mass time decision was made: PCs recommended, FF decided.

Allow for a grieving process.

We feel different – good, bad, otherwise. No judgment, allow people to express themselves.

Where do we go from here? Engage everyone.

Time for small group conversations. Have PC members encourage all to speak. Capture what people are fearful of losing. Build up Corpus identity.

Allow people to write comments, thoughts on post-its like we've done in past. Positive

themes like Faith, Hope, Love. Focus on the positive, the future. What we do and who we are – more than a mass time.

Discussion and debate about making the Listening Sessions (held before the mass time change decision) notes and comments public, e.g. on the Corpus website. Since commenters were not told their comments would be made public, we can't do that. Offer that if anyone wants to see them, we can provide them access.

There will be bars and lemonade.

The last 5pm mass will be Saturday, June 30. We discussed whether Fr. Marc could come as a goodwill gesture. Others felt strongly that some parishioners might still be angry and take it out on him. Suggested that he make a short video that can be shown at all the masses. A letter from Fr. Marc is going in this week's bulletin.

The feedback until now has been different reactions. People are still processing. Understandably, the 6pm reaction was positive. Our challenge to them is, how will you reach out to those who are hurting? Reactions at other masses were sadness, snarkiness, anger. How reaffirm Corpus identity? Why aren't people considering St. Rose as an alternative?

Question asked to PC: why is there the tension between Corpus and St. Rose? Is there something more than just the cultural differences between our ways of worship? Response is, it's hard to say. Possible reasons: when Corpus closed its school, several families left to attend St. Rose. That was a difficult time, strong sense of loss. Then the cluster announcement caused some to think Corpus will close. Some St. Rose parishioners assumed it and volunteered that their church can hold both parish populations. Then when the Cleveland Avenue church was sold, that loss was felt again. Acknowledge that through all the changes over the years, the 5pm Saturday mass has been a constant but now that is going away.

An analogy is when there is a traumatic event like a hurricane, where a home is lost. The house was just "stuff" but the family is safe. The house is the 5pm mass and the family is Corpus parishioners.

Elected a PC chair for 2018-19: Mo Boxrud. Vice chair: Judy Plante was nominated. Since the PC still needs to be filled out, decided to table that vote to allow the new PC decide.

Meeting time, day: to be decided after consulting with Fr. Marc.

This PC (2017-18) may meet again after the June 18 Town Hall meeting.

Adjourned: 9:45 PM.

Next Meeting: September 10, may change due to Fr. Marc's day off being Monday.

Respectfully submitted, Betsy Madden