

**St. Francis Parish Council Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting; Brunsmann Hall**  
**October 8, 2019, 6-8 p.m.**

Present: Linda Hunt, Fred Bermudez, Emer McKenna, Darrin Greer, Bob Reid, Patrick Mahan, Ed Condon, Gary Myrick, and Melba Hinojosa. Also attending was parish staff member JD Warwick.

Absent: Father Des O'Reilly, Francine Freitas, Tom Sweetman, Jo Gonsalves, Margaret Healy, Kent Myers, and Janet Vitt.

Chair Bob Reid opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m. and Emer led the opening prayer.

The minutes of the September 2019 council meeting were read and approved upon a motion made by Fred and seconded by Darrin. They will be forwarded for posting on the parish website.

1. Pastor—absent due to weeklong conclave with the Bishop.
2. PC Chair Comments/Report:
  - Vacant friary. Reported that there is a lot of interest (parishioners, PC members, and school administrators) in the future of the friary. A motion was made and approved to allow interested PC members to join any committee or group that will discuss the friary's future/possibilities. Bob will communicate this idea to Father Des, knowing full well that the Diocese, not the St. Francis Parish, is responsible for the friary at this point.
  - Informally received notice that Tom Sweetman is resigning from the PC. Bob will contact Tom to get a formal letter of resignation.
  - Follow up item: Janet and Francine are working on the dedication "ceremony"/event for Sister Clare's portrait and hope to report back at the November meeting
3. Parishioner Input—Gary brought up the following parishioner and/or personal comments/suggestions:
  - Can the weekend Mass readings be printed and added to the bulletin?
  - A suggestion was made to ask Beth/staff to print out 10 copies of the lector's readings and make them available (possibly in a binder?) to those who are interested. (A motion was made and approved to refer this comment to the Liturgy Committee/Liaison.)
  - When used in the church, the projector screen would be more visible if it is lifted into a higher position. (A motion was made and approved to refer this comment to the Building & Grounds Committee to see what can be done to improve the placement of the screen.)

- How much money did the parish earn from the fireworks sale and what was it spent on?

Patrick reported that the school's share of the profit was \$5,400. This amount was added to the Church's general account and used for building maintenance and other routine expenses. PC members would benefit from receiving the budget/financial reports 7-10 days before discussion at a PC meeting. (A motion was made and approved to refer this comment to the Finance Committee. Currently parish members receive an annual financial report and, on a quarterly basis, the parish bulletin includes financial support information. Bob will ask Amanda Evans, the Parish Business Manager, to provide electronic or hard copies of the report(s) to the PC quarterly and to be available for questions/comments on an ad hoc basis. Amanda will be asked to clarify her Parish Business Manger roles/responsibilities.

4. Ministries of Care Review Committee Update—Ed reported and shared a summary of activities (attached to these minutes).

- Overall goal for now is assess the scope and breadth of the current St. Francis ministries.
- Longer term issues pertain to setting a timeline for getting the committee's work completed.
- A PC member asked how the committee's members were selected and it was primarily the work of Father Des and Bob Reid.
- Ask Michelle Ramirez or Amanda Evans to provide an overall update about the Steps Ministry.

5. School Liaison—Fred reported that the school is working to engage alumni in events at the school and at church. One event is being held on November 4th.

6. Stewardship Committee—Patrick reported that the committee requests the addition of another PC member.

Questions the Committee is grappling with:

- How to get young people more involved?
- What are some new ways to raise money?
- How to make parishioner's feel more welcome so they are willing to participate and contribute money.
- Perhaps hold joint meetings with the Ministries of Care Review Committee?

7. Liturgy Report—Bob reported that preparations are underway for the Advent season.

8. Parish Directory—No further progress at this time. The project is nearly 90% complete but the photographers are not moving to finish the project at this time. Bob Reid and Father Des will explore legal options to get the directory completed.

9. Buildings & Ground—no report

10. Parish Safety Committee—Gary Myrick reported that the committee will meet soon and will come up with a timeline for the completion of another presentation to the parish, including an evacuation drill and scheduling a law enforcement presentation. The informational brochure or tri-fold is nearing completion.

11. Faith Formation—Emer reported that participation is increasing and that they are using an age-based script “Respecting all God’s People”. Emer also reported attending a very valuable all-day religious education conference/Ministry Day, “Go Make Disciples”. The involvement of more lay people is needed and there is a Lay Ministry Project that requires a 3 year commitment. Just as a point of information. An engaging conference speaker was Dr. Bennet Omalu, [who was the first to publish research on the degenerative brain disease he called chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or CTE]. He spoke of the role of his faith in his life.

12. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

13. Next Parish Council Meeting: November 12th

Prayers: Opening: Darrin; Closing: Ed Condon

Respectfully submitted by Melba Hinojosa, October 22, 2019