

St. Francis Parish Council Minutes
Regular Meeting; online via Zoom
Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Fred Bermudez, absent	Patrick Mahan, present
Ed Condon, present	Emer McKenna, present
Francine Freitas, present	Kent Meyers, present
Jo Gonsalves, excused	Gary Myrick, present
Darrin Greer, vice chair, present	Fr. Desmond O'Reilly, present
Margaret Healy, excused	Bob Reid, chair, present
Linda Hill, present	Janet Vitt, secretary, present
Melba Hinojosa, excused	
Sue Kenney, present	

Also attending was J.D. Warrick of the parish staff.

Chair Bob Reid opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m., and Francine Freitas led a prayer.

The minutes of the September 8, 2020, regular council meeting were reviewed and upon motion by Francine Freitas, seconded by Sue Kenney, were approved unanimously. They will be posted on the parish website.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Des made the following points:

- A diocesan retreat for priests was conducted online in early October and included a powerful session of racism. He hopes the parish can offer something on the topic after the pandemic.
- Catholic Schools have reopened through 5th grade by working with the state on conditions in the school. At St. Francis Elementary, about 75 children are attending in person, while the remaining enrollment is through distance-learning.
- He is still working to mail a communication to all parish members to make sure folks who don't have access to the internet are reached.

Chair's Report: Bob Reid summarized the following topics:

- The Outreach Working Group has met with a representative of Midtown-HART and will hear from the executive director of Loaves & Fishes as the group gathers information

about efforts being done to serve the poor in Sacramento. The group will soon prioritize a few possible projects and do deeper research.

Liaison to church staff: J.D. Warrick relayed a couple of points from Beth White:

- The diocesan annual parish count is under way and will include members attending Masses in person and those who a streaming Sunday Mass.
- First Eucharist was held for those children who missed the chance to celebrate in the Spring because of Covid-19. The Masses were celebrated with invited in-person guests only and streamed for other family members.
- Three children were baptized in October.
- Faith Formation classes will be conducted exclusively online.
- Instead of Remembrance Mums this year, a litany will be assembled to remember loved ones who died since last November 1st. The litany will be part of the liturgy on Sunday, November 1.

Gala 2021: Janet Vitt briefed the council on the planning for a March 27, 2021 joint gala with the school and parish at the Golden One Center or a virtual event. That will be decided around the end of the year, before ticket sales begin. Parish Council members who have attended several online fund-raising events advise the Gala Planning Committee to set one price for the event whether it's in person or virtual because supporters know the circumstances are have demonstrated generosity.

Committee Reports

- Building & Grounds – Janet Vitt
 - A sump pump in the boiler is leaking and is scheduled to be repaired or replaced under the service contract. Manny is painting the Parish Center Kitchen
 - The ambo in St. Clare's chapel is being painted to address wear-and-tear.
- Liaison to Finance Committee – Janet Vitt – The Committee didn't meet in September.
- Liaison to Liturgy Committee - Francine Freitas
 - The committee met in early October to discuss All Saints Day and to resume planning for future holidays while keeping in mind Covid-19 restrictions.
- Faith Formation - Emer McKenna and Kent Meyers
 - It is hoped that classes for youth will begin on November 1. As JD explained, they will be conducted online.

- First reconciliation will be conducted for students in the school and separately for students and adults in RCIA.

The next council meeting will be at 6 p.m., Tuesday, November 10, 2020, by Zoom. Janet Vitt and Francine Freitas will provide the opening and closing prayers, respectively.

There being no more business, Sue Kenney led the Council in a closing prayer, and Fr. Des said a benediction. The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Vitt, secretary