

**Parish Council of St. Charles Borromeo, Resurrection, All Saints**  
**Summary of Meeting Sunday, June 1, 2025**  
**1:40 PM-3:30 PM**

*Attendance*

<u>Ex Officio</u>	<u>Parish Council</u>
<i>Present</i>	
Fr Willem Klaver Fr Benedict Ohanga Deacon Kenneth Radcliffe Deacon Rodney Beckford Deacon Michel Hodge Sr Dorothy Hall, OP Cristina Ciprian-Matthews, Trustee	Renell Grant, President Carolyn McBain Danielle Beckford Frank Mendez Gwen Miller Lucy Osakwe Michele Turnquest Vivian Taylor Christine Whelan, Secretary
<i>Absent</i>	
Natalia Rodrigo, School Principal	Annie Pena Dominique Michel Lakia Lewis Lenora Graham Paulette Nixon

**Meeting Summary**

1. Fr Willem offered an opening prayer and thanked those present for making his 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration such a success. He stressed the importance of celebrating as many events in our parish life as possible, eg today's graduation Mass.
2. **St Charles School (Fr Willem)**
  - a. Fr Willem, Fr Benedict, and the Deacons are meeting once a month with Natalia, fostering a closer relationship between the parish and the school.
  - b. Maintenance: St Charles School is now a regional school, and since July 2024, no longer a partnership school; however the parish cannot afford to absorb the maintenance costs, and we must maintain our former arrangement.
  - c. Scholarship: Deacon Beckford suggested the parish donate a scholarship for a student to attend the school; hold an annual collection to fund.
3. **Update: Planning Committee for Deacon Radcliffe's Birthday Celebration (Vivian)**
  - a. The committee is working with Deacon Radcliffe's daughters. There is no available/suitable Sunday for a party, so will plan for a celebration next year to honor his 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the deaconate. Plan is to hold a ticketed dance as a fundraiser for the church.

- b. Deacon Radcliffe requested that all members purchase his book, “Applying Alcoholics Anonymous Principles to the Disease of Racism.”

#### **4. Calendar Meeting June 18 (All)**

- a. A solution is needed to ensure that church ministries and organizations have booking priority over outside parties.
  - i. Proposal: Place a freeze on space reservations/rentals for this month (June). At the meeting, all Heads will have the opportunity to book their spaces for the next 18 months (July 2025-December 2026). A second calendar meeting will be held in December to review the bookings, and going forward there will be two calendar meetings each year.
    - 1. The proposal was adopted with 15 in favor, none against
  - ii. It was also recommended that outside groups not be permitted to book meetings as recurring; they should be required to book each session individually.
- b. All members should communicate the new arrangement to their respective groups.
- c. NOTE: The McCann room is not available for outside rentals given its location inside the private residence of the rectory.

#### **5. Evaluation: Lenten Retreat at Maryknoll March 29 (Deacon Hodge)**

- a. The Pilgrimage of Hope retreat Ossining went very well, with about 40 attendees.
- b. Deacon Hodge would like to make this an annual event around Gaudete Sunday. Next year he would like to adjust pricing to reflect transportation needs and make the announcement earlier.

#### **6. Update: Strategic Planning Committee (Vivian)**

- a. It was agreed that the body for Strategic Planning is a committee of the Parish Council, not a sub-committee.
- b. Working groups: Demographics and Other Strategies; Data Collection Options; Designing Format for Church Focus Groups
- c. The Committee will create recommendations for a 5-year strategy plan and will eventually present them to the Council for approval.

#### **7. Update: Welcome Ministry (Michele)**

- a. Michele has found some volunteers to help; will ensure Charlie’s Café is staffed for those who wish to use it.

#### **8. Capital Campaign Prep (Fr Willem)**

- a. Fr Willem sent survey results (attached)
- b. The Capital Campaign Cabinet will meet Monday June 9 with Tracy to review the first draft of the Case for Support statement.

- c. Architectural design has been put out for bidding; bids range from \$9MM to \$12MM. The vendors are working on ways to reduce costs (change of materials, etc).
- d. Next meeting to review the biddings will be mid-July.

**9. 2025 Parish Feast Day (Fr Willem)**

- a. His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory will be the main celebrant and homilist for the Parish Feast Day Mass on Sunday, November 16 at 10:00am at St Charles Borromeo Church.

**10. Archdiocese of New York Pastoral Grants Program in support of Central Harlem Cluster Evangelization and Empowerment Program (Fr Willem)**

- a. The Cluster is receiving an archdiocesan grant of \$18K to support future Cluster activities (eg Know Your Rights workshops).

**11. Word Among Us Subscription (Fr Willem)**

- a. 75 people have registered to receive the booklet. Some are homebound; Rita Burns will arrange for distribution to those parishioners. Regular distribution TBD, with the help of Michele Turnquest.

**12. Future of Religious Education (Fr Willem)**

- a. Fathers Willem and Benedict met with the teachers to discuss how to handle the coming school year in Lori Melton's absence.
- b. Fr Willem advised that Lori thanks us for our prayers.

**13. LED Lighting Upgrade and Choir Microphones at SCB (Danielle)**

- a. New motion-sensor LED lights have been installed on the altar and in the auditorium as an energy-efficient cost-saving measure
- b. 2 new solo microphones have been purchased for the choir; Danielle will meet with Gospel Lite representatives to discuss next steps

**14. Renaming Auditorium and Food Pantry (Deacon Beckford)**

- a. Deacon recommended that for rental purposes, the church name not be linked with outside groups to avoid any inappropriate associations. However the members agreed to keep the name of St Charles Borromeo Food Pantry.

**15. Saturday Office Hours (Fr Willem)**

- a. Father reported we have a volunteer from Resurrection, Mrs Genesis de Jesus, for office hours from 10:00am-2:00pm

**16. Other Business**

- a. Carolyn advised that the Rosarians' retreat was a wonderful success, and that Fr Benedict had been a fantastic facilitator.

17. Fr Benedict offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was concluded at 3:30pm