**St. Patrick’s Parish Council**

 **Meeting Minutes**

**April 20, 2022**

**Parish meeting Room**

**Present**: Monsignor Ferry, Father Joseph, Diane Bamford, Dede Burke, Guy Carlsen, Richard Juliana, Tom Kennedy , Bill Kelleher, Eileen Melican, Erin O’Donnell, Gary Vessecchia

**Absent**: Gerri Alfino, Joe DiCicco, Patti Juliana, Donna Marino, Karen Schmidt, Heather Trotta

**Minutes**: Minutes from March 16, 2022 were distributed and accepted unanimously.

**Opening Prayer**: Msgr. opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:36 pm

**Pastor’s Report:**

 Msgr. stated that overall, Easter this year was back to pre-covid attendance with the 10:30 and 12:00 masses packed. The preliminary collections stands at $21,892.

Msgr. asked for a report from the St. Patrick’s Emergency Shelter Program held the week of March 28 – April 3. Erin reported that the written report is in the draft stage right now and will be forthcoming. She stated 112 parishioners from St. Patrick’s participated in the SPESP this year.

**President’s Report**:

Carnival News: Gary reported that the Carnival is in good shape. Several members commented on the ease with which to sign up on the web site to volunteer to work at the Carnival.

New Members: Gary introduced Dede Burke and asked her to give a brief bio. Dede reported that she has been a member of the parish for 30 years. Dede has been involved as a volunteer in the hospice program, teaching CCD, Visiting Nurse, and chaired the Respect for Life group for many years. Gary thanked Dede for her work and welcomed her to the Council.

Archdiocese of New York Synod 2021-2023 Program’s Listening Session. Mary Mullaney and Maria Lonczak reported to the Parish Council on the listening session held at St. Patrick’s Church in Yorktown on March 26, 2022. Mary stated that as a group of five parishioners, they were disappointed that out of the entire program, there was not sufficient time to listen and discuss. However, in the end, the experience was considered a blessing. The group came together later to sit and think about what the Holy Spirit was calling them to do. The written consensus of the group was submitted to the Archdiocese. The dioceses from around the world will cull the responses and send them on to Rome. In October of 2023, all bishops will attend the world Synod. Pope Francis is asking for people to speak loudly and clearly their thoughts about where the Church is now and where one sees it going in the future. This is a special opportunity to share. On May 4, 2022, there will be a Zoom listening session from 6:30 to 8:45 pm. Parishioners may register at archny.org/on line session. All are encouraged to go to the Vatican website (www. Synod.va/en.html) and/or the Archdiocese of New York website and click on Synod. For further information, details will be posted on the St. Patrick’s website. Gary thanked Mary and Maria for their report.

**Ministry Updates:**

Lectors and Altar Servers: There was 100% sign up for the lectors this month. In the future, Sign Up Genius will allow lectors and altar servers to sign up two months at a time. Tom suggested that he be permitted to ask lectors for their email addresses. With permission, he will send the list of emails to all the lectors. This will allow anyone who must cancel at the last moment, to send out a group email requesting a substitute. Altar servers are now included in the Sign-Up Genius.

CCD: Gary highlighted Karen and Donna’s report. The CCD office is presently at the Cenacle. There are some equipment issues to be addressed. Monsignor is aware of them. May 3rd will be the last class for CCD students. $30,000 has been collected in registration fees.

Men’s Ministry: Guy reported that 12 men were in attendance last week. Meetings are now available on-line.

Home Bound Ministry: Father Joseph reported that he visited 12 homes last Friday where he anointed the sick and gave the sacrament of Holy Communion to those who wished to receive.

Respect for Life: Dede Burke reported that there are 10-12 parishioners involved who meet and coordinate their efforts for mothers.

NWCC Food Drive: Diane inquired whether to move the food drive from April 30 to the following weekend so as not to interfere with the First Communion event. Discussion followed. There was a decision to hold the food drive on May 7th and 8th.

**New Updates:**

Tom reported to the Council on several projects. He is looking into and gathering information on live streaming certain events such as funerals, First Communions and Confirmations. In addition, Tom is looking into repairing the speaker on the right side of the altar, and the possibility of discreetly mounting a screen on the wall of the church. Tom has also looked into the smart boards from the school facility and will get back with more information on the possibility of selling them. At the next meeting Tom will present his findings to the Council to help make decisions.

Tom announced that an attorney in the parish has offered his legal services, pro bono, to the parish. Tom to speak with Mary and Monsignor on how to best to inform parishioners.

Gary reminded the Council that the present offices of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary will expire at the end of June. He asked he group to think about filling these positions which will begin in September.

The meeting concluded with a prayer by Father Joseph at 8:23 pm