

In attendance: Fr. Dan Riley, Anne Marie David, Lija Joseph, Kate Neal, Nick Frega, Monica Pacheco-Tougas, Peg Miller, Jim Allaire, Keirnan Conroy Klosek, Erica Johnson, Tom Morrison, Laura Shachmut, Elizabeth Micci, Paul Hurney, Gina Chaimanis, Kristina Preman

Minutes from the June, 2021 Meeting approved.

- Staffing
  - With the retirement of Rosemary and Michelle, their collective 70 hours was replaced by the addition of Nick Woll and Jared Blake's 40 hours.
  - New to staff:
    - Deacon Vaclav Novotny, S.J. is newly ordained Jesuit Deacon. After Medical school he entered the Jesuit order preparing for the priesthood. He will be helping out at the collaborative – preaching, graveside internments.
    - Nick Woll – Coordinator of Grades 6 – 10 at both parishes. Working on Masters in Ministry at BC so office hours are highly scheduled: Sun – Mon 4-9 pm, Tuesday 1-9 pm, Friday 8-11 am.
    - Jared Blake – Youth Minister: working 15 hours / week – hours varied based on the events planned.
- Facilities
  - OL Baptismal Font: A rod iron fence was installed around the pool to eliminate the chance of someone falling into the pool area. The planters surrounding the pool did not meet the criteria of the Archdiocese with respect for safety.
  - OL Windows: windows were replaced on the second floor of the parish center and a new sprinkler system as required by the Newton Fire Department.
  - SH Pastoral Center: work is just about complete including an exterior handicapped accessible ramp, re-oriented the entrance to the Centre St. side of the building, offices have been moved, gathering spaces re-defined. At the finance council report on weekend of Oct 2/3 Tom M. will let parishioners know that they are encouraged to use this space as part of the parish resources.
  - SH – discussion has begun on the replacement/restoration of the pews in the church. Erica cautioned that the use of any fabric for this project could negatively distort the acoustics of the church. Others expressed the need to refurbish the floors beneath the pews and to eliminate the lip at the aisle if work is to be done. Anticipated any work would be done the summer of 2022. Fiscal caution was encouraged in the implementation of the project.
  - Both parishes currently have solid long-term tenants. OL added Clearway School with a 10-year lease and SH fostering continued growth of the Wellan Montessori School.
- Finances
  - Overall finances of Collaborative were discussed. OL carries debt that results in the need to carefully budget for programs and improvements. Due to bequests, SH is in a much stronger position and improvements do not have to come out of the operating budget.
  - A question was asked re: *Could SH money be used to cover finances at OL?* SH's obligation to cover finances at OL's. Fr. Dan explained that the intermingling money is not allowed as the two parishes, while in a collaborative, are not merged. The Archdiocese strictly prohibits using money of one parish for that of another.
- We Want you Back Campaign:
  - Picnic: Play up the upcoming picnic on Sunday September 26<sup>th</sup> – advertise ... Parents of young families are looking for things to do. Gina C. to send wording of picnic invite to Nick F and he will put it on a special Thursday Flocknote.
  - Post Cards: Discussion surrounded how effective the post cards were. Cost effective – Pilot printing and Bulk Mail. Temporarily suspended due to the Covid surge. After discussion it was decided that this effective outreach will be continued. Alternate pictures between both parishes. Important that the pictures show diversity.

- Blessing of the Animals: October at SH. This gathering is another effective outdoor activity to bring people and energy back to Church. Should be well advertised prior to the blessing and well recorded with pictures displayed in bulletin and Instagram.
- Online presence: Important that all these activities are documented through diverse pictures on Instagram.
- Youth Ministry Suggestions for various activities including visit to the shrine of St. Anne and St. Teresa were suggested. Beautiful grounds for Picnic, Stations of the Cross. All suggestions of youth centered activities are welcomed and can be emailed to Jared and Nick.
- Racial Justice Ministry Retreat
  - Racial Justice Ministry was launched last November just after the RCAB Social Justice Convocation. The collaborative group meets every other Monday for 1 hour. Deanna Morgan has organized the format of the meetings providing education through films, books, speakers of the racial injustices and prejudices that are intrinsic within our Church, our community, and our world.
  - This ministry has grown quickly and will be presenting a Retreat on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>. This retreat will present a keynote speaker and break out groups with various topics that attendees rotate through. The focus of this ministry is further supported by Deacon Bill and Fr. Dan presenting homilies on the topic of Racial Justice.
    - Further discussion centered on a push to promotes this retreat. Members of the council were aware to greater or lesser degrees of the 10/17 event depending on where they gather their parish news. Efforts will be made in the coming weeks to make bulletin and flock note “ads” stand out visually to ensure that all are aware of this opportunity.
    - There was also discussion re: honorariums for the speakers. Out of concern for starting a precedent, honorariums would be discussed with Tom M. and Andy M. of the Finance Council.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> - Zoom

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny Arpino