

Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2021

Parish Council Virtual Zoom Meeting

*St. Kenneth Vision Statement: "To become an increasingly welcoming and inclusive parish
Centered in the Gospel of justice, love and compassion."*

Brian Owens called the Parish Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Participating: Fr. Tom Belczak, Bob Bobrowski, Jim Bourdganis, John Dankert, Tracey Emmanuel, Joe Henderson, Kristen Holt, Brad Neilson, Rich Noelke, Brian Owens, Carol Parker, Tom Thomas, and Judy Torosian

Absent: Deacon Denny DeVooght and Mike Hennen

1. Opening Prayer: Judy Torosian

2. Approval of the Minutes: Motion Thomas, seconded by Dankert to approve the February 11, 2021 minutes with punctuation corrections. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. Administrative Updates:

A. Feedback from Parishioners: Some parishioners have expressed concern about returning to mass until more people are vaccinated. Joe Henderson recommended adding an announcement to the on-line week-end masses instructing people of mass options and also adding metatags for guidance to other sources (such as FORMED video links) to the website.

B. Mass Attendance: (over the four masses during each week-end)

3/6 - 7/21
771 in church and over 2,000 viewers for the on-line mass, from various countries

4. New/Continuing Business:

A. Update on Families of Parishes (we are in the first phase):

- a. The AOD announced the Moderator for our family will be Fr. Gary Michalik, Pastor for St. Colette.
- b. There will be a retreat for all moderators at St. Paul on April 15 & 16.
- c. There are 9,500 households in our Family of Parishes.
- d. The four parish pastors of our family will soon have a Zoom session.
- e. The AOD wants each Family to have a Zoom meet and greet, strengths and weaknesses discussion prior to the effective start of the restructure July 1.
- f. Brenda Haskell appointed to the AOD Missionary Strategic Planning (MSP) position.

B. Any other New Business -- None

5. Commission/ Council Reports

A. Christian Service – John Dankert advised that Stephen Moening was to give a presentation about a trip to the holy land but this trip was postponed twice due to Covid. Hopeful to go this year. These activities were discussed:

1. St. Kenneth helped with work in the seminary. A check is sent to the seminary quarterly for tuition assistance to support a deserving student. These funds have been allocated to Moening during his undergrad studies. Now that he has advanced to graduate work, the AOD has assumed this expense. Vocations were discussed:
 - a. The AOD Vocation Director was changed in 2020.
 - b. During Covid, there have been no altar servers, which has reduced young student service. Difficult for young people to determine whether they have a calling to vocations.
 - c. Fr. Tom, Fr. George and Fr. Chris (when he was assigned to St. Kenneth) mentor and encourage our youth, including Moening, to choose vocational life.
 - d. In the past, St. Kenneth assisted Sister Roberta in joining the Sisters of Charity.
2. Soup kitchen at St. Christine on March 16. St. Kenneth purchased a new oven for St. Christine's; old oven to go to Detroit Rescue Mission.
3. Seven donations totaling \$23,100 made during March.
- B. **Education** –Joanna Vaghy, Jodi Villeneuve and Sue Massey will meet at St. Collette with other parishes in the Family to discuss best practices and sharing resources. Our Lady of Victory went all virtual for religious education over the Covid period. St. Colette holds classes in the summer to cover all education for the year.
- C. **Stewardship**
 1. Fundraising – CSA has provided needed funding often utilized for capital improvements.
 2. Facilities –
 - a. Brad Neilson shared that not much is happening. There were a few water leaks in the main social hall due to ice melting. These leaks were repaired.
 - b. Neilson received a proposal for possible renovations to the office building. The proposal seeks to:
 - i. Expand office area, which would include using the former library space
 - ii. Provide a more secure environment for the safety of staff
 - iii. Add dedicated offices, a lunch/break room, and a consultation/meeting room
 - iv. The estimated expense for these changes is \$750,000
 - v. Also, need to address roof issues and new signage
- D. **Finance** – Rich Noelke emailed the board his report. Also discussed:
 - a. Bond money withheld for church renovation received from Wayne County (\$30,000) and Plymouth Township (\$22,000).
 - b. February collections totaled \$118,000. This was an average collection of about \$29,500 per week.
 - c. The Small Business Administration loan forgiveness requires the completion of a one-page form. Once Flagstar Loan number received, paperwork will be turned in to Loan Source.
- E. **Parishioner Retention and Evangelization (PRE):** Tom Thomas emailed the minutes from the first committee meeting held March 4. Committee members are: Tom Thomas, Brian Owens, Kristen Holt and Joe Henderson. This committee will remain in place until the September Time & Talent, laying the foundation for others to assume the role. Highlights of the meeting:

- a. A survey will be developed and transmitted to learn more about the reasons that people walked away from the church and what might bring them back.
- b. Committee hopes to meet every few weeks, right through the summer.
- c. Find ways to influence those less active members of our parish family
- d. This is the largest problem within the Catholic Church.
- e. Those interested are encouraged to read more on this topic – i.e., various books by Bishop Robert Barron.

6. Fr. Tom's Prerogative:

- A. St. Kenneth is exceptionally blessed and has received on-going support from parishioners during Covid!
- B. Video mass will continue at least through Labor Day. The Church will live-stream the 4:30 mass and post it on YouTube, at least through Labor Day.
- C. Holy Week Plans
 - a. No feet washing at Holy Thursday 7 p.m. mass
 - b. There will be adoration after mass in the Solanus Casey Room
 - c. There will not be candles at the Easter Vigil service due to COVID.
 - d. Some of the Holy Week services will be taped or livestreamed as options for parishioners.
 - e. Good Friday mass will be at 1:15 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Tracey Emmanuel

Adjournment: 8:37 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 8, 2021, Thursday, at 7 p.m. It will be a Zoom meeting unless advised otherwise.

Opening Prayer: Jim Bourdganis

Closing Prayer: Rich Noelke