

ST. LEONARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: 2/8/2022

Location: Parish Office

Called to Order: 6:06 PM

Attendees: Scott Colosi (via phone), Julia Bauscher, Allison Goushay (via phone), Ray Triplett, Emily Wilson (new member), Fr. Lou, Teresa Riggs, Sharon Coonan

Absent: Mike Gandolfo, Will Colburn

Agenda:

1. Opening Prayer
2. Approval of December minutes
3. Financial reports highlights and information - Teresa Riggs
4. Charitable donations from STL - Teresa Riggs and Father Lou
5. Parish outreach activities - brainstormed by Teresa and other parishioners - Teresa and Council
6. Synodal/Discernment timeline and activities
7. Other updates/business - Fr. Lou
8. Closing Prayer

The Parish Council said the opening prayer created and provided by the Worship Committee.

The December Parish Council Meeting minutes were approved.

Financial Report highlights and information – Teresa Riggs

Teresa previously shared the June-Dec financial report with the council and shared highlights and other information related to the report, including parish demographics and giving summary. Following are some of the highlights that were shared:

- Through the first 6 months the net result is greater compared to budget. This is partially due to a generous, anonymous bequest of \$250,000
- The parish has developed a good relationship with Immaculata. We will begin negotiating a new lease agreement with Immaculata in the near future.
- Holy Trinity is currently renting the gym for sports practice and activities. This has been a beneficial partnership for both parishes
- Expenses are favorable on the expense side due to vacant positions
- STL shares capital expenses with Immaculata. Bids for replacing ceiling tiles and lights in the cafeteria are in process and the cost will be partially funded with a restricted donation of \$15,000 received in January. Work will not begin until June. We are also soliciting proposals to replace the campus security system and add security cameras A \$10,000 unrestricted donation will help pay for this project.

- Due to the favorable cash position the council was provided a list of neighborhood non-profit organizations to which STL may make a donation for their consideration. Some of the excess cash may be put into longer term investments. The finance committee will make a recommendation in the near future.
- Currently the parish donates \$2,000/year to UCHM and \$500 to CLOUT
- Finally, Teresa provided some information about giving trends:
 - There are 241 parish families (compared to 425 four years ago). The decline is partially due to school closure and a stewardship “clean up”, eliminating those who are no longer active in the parish after three attempts at contacting those families.
 - Of the 241 families, 148 donate regularly; 14% of those donations are made online; 58% of the donations come through envelopes. The remainder comes from IRA contributions, stock sales donation and family foundations

Parish outreach opportunities and event possibilities – Teresa Riggs and Council

The parish council reviewed a thoughtfully prepared list of quarterly social outreach and event possibilities. The council considered and discussed all of the possibilities and will consider additional ideas generated by staff in an upcoming meeting. Allison Foushay volunteered to be responsible for a second quarter Food Truck event and to help with a fall extravaganza/homecoming event.

Synodal Process – Fr. Lou

A process timeline/overview was provided by Fr. Lou. Parish Council members will be responsible for reviewing resources available on the Archdiocese’s website at www.archlou.org/synod-2022. The parish listening session is currently planned for Saturday, March 19, 2022. Fr. Lou will share potential themes and questions for the listening session. Council members will make theme and question recommendations to Fr. Lou by February 18th to begin this process.

Other updates

Sharon Bidwell has accepted the Director of Evangelization and Formation position.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

The next meeting of the parish council will be held on Tuesday, March 1st at 6:00 PM in the parish office.

Respectfully submitted by Julia Bauscher.