

## **St. Leonard Parish Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** February 7, 2023

**Location:** Parish Office

**Called to Order:** 6:00 PM

**Attendees:** Julia Bauscher, Will Coburn, Allison Gousha, Gary Gruneisen, Katie McCullum, Ray Triplett, Steve King, Mike Gandolfo

**Absent:** Father Lou/Sharon Coonan

**Guest:** Jay Branham

### **Agenda:**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Introductions
3. Strategic Plan Discussion related to Joy of the Gospel and a New Way of Being Church
4. Project Management Process -updates/events – consideration of proposed events for 2023
5. Other business
  - a. Prayers of the Faithful and Mass announcements by PC members
  - b. Stewardship
  - c. Parish Council Guidelines (2023) – next steps for implementation
6. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

The Council said the opening prayer created by the Worship Committee.

Julia advised as to change of the agenda: Parish Council Guidelines to be tabled until next meeting when Father Lou or Sharon Coonan could be present for discussion.

### **Introductions**

Council Members introduced themselves to Jay Branham who is considering joining the council.

### **Strategic Plan Discussion related to Joy of the Gospel and a New Way of Being Church**

Julia re-capped “nourishment” as the possible focus of the council’s strategic plan in addition to the missionary efforts of the church. The council re-visited reflection on the strategic plan and previously drafted documents.

Mike brought up the previously proposed lunch sub-committee (Ray, Will, Julia and Gary had discussed meeting at lunch to prepare topics for consideration at council meetings and to open-up communication with core volunteers at October 2022 PC meeting) that was supposed to happen and questioned why it did not come to fruition. Discussion ensued on how to move things forward and put suggestions like this into action. Steve offered the suggestion of using the Parish Office for the lunch meetings.

Ray motioned to decide on mission statement – whether leaving it as is or changing it. Julia questioned whether it was up to parish council to make decision on mission statement – should it be up to the parish members. Mike stressed the importance of having a clear identity of who we are as a

parish, and as a council to provide stability and direction when we have any future pastoral changes. Discussion ensued as to how to facilitate this process. It was suggested to have one topic per meeting to try to make more concrete decisions and get things done. Jay shared that he chaired parish council at his church in Florida and briefly described his experience in comparison to what he sees here. He then suggested circling back to the mission statement and then a plan to execute what we are trying to accomplish. The council discussed values versus a mission statement, then agreed that all members will send their mission statement suggestions to Katie via email by February 21, 2023 and she will circulate them all for review, comments and consideration.

### **Project Management Process -updates/events – consideration of proposed events for 2023**

The council reviewed the proposed event calendar for 2023. The Food Truck Invasion is scheduled for July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The February Spaghetti Dinner was canceled due to issues with the project management process. Council debated the value in the project management process, the importance of the historical data and how it helps ensure events will be successful and be in line with our mission. Apprentice Chairs were suggested for larger events to ease volunteers into what could be seen as intimidating volunteer opportunities. The importance of succession planning for event volunteers was discussed. Fr Lou instructed the council to cancel the Spaghetti Dinner and honor Deacon Ralph's retirement instead. To keep in line with the focus of "Nourishment" and to set example of participation, it was suggested the Parish Council chair the dinner. Advertising for the event was discussed and Julia stated she would complete the project management process.

### **Other Business**

- a) **Prayers of the Faithful and Mass announcements by parish council members**  
Julia is getting more information for the council on when this will start.
- b) **Stewardship**  
Letters are out – tabled until Father or Sharon C. can attend meeting.
- c) **Parish Council Guidelines (2023) – next steps for implementation**  
Tabled until next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 7:16PM

The next meeting will be March 7, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Katie McCullum