

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta (BTC) Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 8th, 2021, 7:00 PM

Attendees: Jeanne Baer, Bob Brandon, Bernadette Dalton, Miriam Gutting, Fr. Tom Haley, Lisa Lonero, Deacon Al Love, Kathy Magrecki, Jane Orlando, Lorenzo Robinson, Christine Stoverink, Corrin Thornton, Eileen Weiskopf; **Guests:** Erin Lee and Rob Grumich

Excused Absence: Jeff Finnegan, Margaret Toney, and Addie Govero, School Principal

Corrin Thornton, Chairperson, officiated and meeting opened at 7:04 PM

Opening Prayer: Fr. Haley

Approval of Minutes: Bob Brandon motioned to accept minutes as written and Jane Orlando seconded; minutes approved.

New Business:

Went around the room to introduce each other for our visitors Erin Lee, Advancement Director and Rob Grumich, Communications Leader (group formed from our Listening sessions)

Rob began discussion since he understood Parish and council would like to better communicate various activities beginning with Fish fries, and Lenten activities. It is felt there seems to be more connection due to a lot of parishioners are feeling disconnected. More communication is required within the parish as well as whole community. Not a priority to use what we currently have 1) My Parish App is downloadable but requires someone to maintain and/or administer and 2) Flock Notes, is a free text-driven app requiring cell phone numbers and someone to be in charge to receive message for distribution and then send. These applications also may require some instruction/training.

What we need is something to use currently in order to communicate Lent activities. Every Wednesday evening at 7PM in the church for 45 minutes will be a presentation/services on prayer practices. It will also be Livestreamed for those who cannot attend. Mary Weiskopf suggested a presentation on the Beatitudes. Someone from the parish, variety of parishioners, will share testimony as a short video, on what the Beatitudes mean to them and will be presented. These will be announced by email and/or posted on the BTC Facebook website.

Email is the best communication, by possibly having an announcement blast each Saturday attaching some basic links for various items.

Council approved this is okay to do for our Lenten services, prayer practices, but to also add some of this information as announcements after Mass. Rob will move forward.

Erin shared insight regarding One Call (like Flock Notes) distributing a message to larger groups in a phone call/robocall (100 – 900) but with a cost. More communication is better and in general we need something short term to be extended to long term, at the end of Lent. Need a plan, or policy for one time a week. Plan to be sure we have current numbers for emails, or texts. We have approximately 1,000 emails in our system. Emails may bounce; option to subscribe; include hyperlink. Our calendar should be one-stop. We may need to provide training; 1 on 1; tutorials; You tube; Zoom. Does not recommend the My Parish App.

Parish Financial Update:

Deacon Al reported and wanted us all to understand where we are. Fiscal year is from July 1st to June 30th each year. Ended the year with a net loss of \$156K vs. a projected loss of \$190K, an improvement of \$34K to budgeted projection. Capital expenditures accounted for \$148K of the net loss and bad debt an additional \$4K. CARES Act Payroll Protection Program provided \$271K of cash in a forgivable loan covering 8 weeks of payroll and utilities. Revenue will not be recognized until FY22 when loan is forgiven. BTC offertory increased by 5% while across the diocese, there was 10-15% decrease in many places due to COVID. Virtual auction and festival did very well, and golf tournament profit increased compared to prior year. BTC families are very generous.

Old Business:

Jane Orlando was nominated for Vice Chair, but final decision will be made at the March meeting.

Final Thoughts/Comments/Concerns:

Bernadette requested that all members provide a brief biography to include, but not limited to, name, how long in the parish, employment, family information, ministries and parish service. Each member's biography will be published in the bulletin as a way for parishioners to know parish council.

April 25th will be Virtual Auction.

Fish fries are scheduled February 28th, March 5th and March 19th. Drive thru and pickup orders. Orders may be placed on website and pay online, cash and check, but preferably online.

Archbishop to be at BTC for our Feast Day weekend.

Parish council sponsored a round at the Trivia night and whoever would like to contribute may do so by giving to either Corrin, or Jeanne.

Closing Prayer: Deacon Al

Meeting adjourned: 8:15 PM

Next Meeting: Monday, March 8th, 2021

Blessings, love and peace,

Bernadette Dalton

Parish Council Secretary