

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta (BTC) Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 14th, 2021

Attendees: Jeanne Baer, Bob Brandon, Bernadette Dalton, Jeff Finnegan, Miriam Gutting, Fr. Tom Haley, Lisa Lonero, Deacon Al Love, Kathy Magrecki, Jane Orlando, Lorenzo Robinson, Christine Stoverink, Corrin Thornton

Excused Absence: Margaret Toney and Eileen Weiskopf

Corrin Thornton, Chairperson, officiated and meeting opened at 7:05 PM

Opening Prayer: Fr. Tom Haley

Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved as written. Chris Stoverink motioned to accept minutes and Jane Orlando seconded.

New Business

Financial – Update – Deacon Al reported. Thru almost the end of May 2021, parish operating is at break even. School operating loss of \$20K before capital expenses.

Deacon Al, Addie and the new principal, Claudia, met recently to discuss EANS (Emergency Assistance Non-public Schools). Will be submitting the first reimbursement request soon. Part of the requested amount was spent before April and have until August 31st to spend or commit the balance, e.g. ordered today, 2 years worth of disinfectant. Also plan to order smart boards, or some sort of visual aid. Approximately \$85,000 of the \$186,000 is for counseling services. Currently a part-time counselor on staff (available on campus) but will require 2 additional full-time counselors. Counselors are for pre-K to K; 1st to 3rd grade and 4th to 8th grade. Since we are returning back to somewhat normal, children may require more counseling.

Communication Committee – Update – Lengthy discussion regarding getting volunteers, specifically more school families, interested in being a part of the committee. Deacon Al met with Rob Grumich stating he does not want to take on the task to be responsible for One Call and decision is not to begin using such platform until someone steps up.

Engagement Committee – Update – Bernadette and Lisa reported. The Mass in the Grass was moved inside due to the extreme heat. Athletic Association and Men’s Club barbecued hamburgers, hotdogs and provided chips and sodas for those in attendance. Well-attended and seemed to be pretty successful. All were really glad to be together as a community again! Events are planned for July 10th – Community Clean-up Project, and August 21st – Movie Night.

Discussed how to get more people engaged. How to get or even keep the fire burning. Get unengaged people (non-Catholics) on our committees and leadership councils. How do we get people to church and the Mass? Is it the music? How are you personally fed? One needs to be able or have an experience with God. What feeds you and/or are your spiritual needs met? The challenge is: How are we, Parish council, called to lead this and go forth?

Old Business

School Staffing – Update – 7th grade homeroom teacher / Math teacher yet to be hired.

Church Capacity Change – Fr. Haley reported the weekend of July 1 restrictions will be lifted. There will be designated area in church if you wish to be physically distanced from others.

Parish Festival – Fr. Haley reported. A meeting is scheduled for 6:30 PM Tuesday, June 15th for anyone interested. A clean slate for ideas!

Final Thoughts/ Comments/ Concerns

Strategic Planning is a really big thing for our new Archbishop. Planning will begin at the top and go all the way down to each parish. Along with that, Evangelization is very important.

We are very much still a faith community and alive. We need to build community, welcome, inspire and be fed. All of this is very hard work and to do this we need to look beyond ourselves. We are a community in Ferguson as a whole.

Closing Prayer: Miriam Gutting read a passage in honor of St. Roche

Next Meeting: Monday, August 9th, 2021 at 7PM in the Parish Office Conference Room. NO meeting in July.

Blessings, love and peace,

Bernadette Dalton

Parish Council Secretary