

St. Francis of Assisi – Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
February 16, 2022 7:00pm

Meeting called to order at 7:15pm by Jeff Chan

Attendance: Jeff Chan, Glenda Griest, Clark Parmley, Linda Howard, Paul Durham, Kent Welch, Mike Ecker, Fr. Tom Reidy / **Excused absence:** John Walraven (illness)

Ex-officio attendees: Deacon Gary Steffes, Janet Morehead

Opening Prayer: Clark Parmley

Question of the Week: Discussed the Luke 6:20-26 “blessed are you” and “woe is you” passage, and how we should both consider the blessings and challenges we have, and especially look at the needs of others relative to each blessing

Minutes from January 19, 2022 council meeting reviewed and approved

Pastor’s Comments: none

Old Business

- Parish/building signage: Quotes in hand for parking lot lighting, still need to determine signage options/lighting. Concern with “getting people from sign to entrance drive”. Will have offline calls/meetings with Paul, Jeff, Greg Eck to drive this to proposal/plan.
- Process of Updating Parish Pastoral Plan: On hold for Synod process. Will pick up in June.
- Candidates for Parish Council Mar 5/6 election: David Smith, Chris Johnmeyer, Seth Hampel, and Cheryl Coffelt are candidates to fill vacancies from Ron Pojar and Mike Ecker. Info in bulletin, pics/bio to be posted Feb 19-Mar 6.
- Steps/process for building new church: Hold. Drop from forward agenda.
- Playground ideas: Quotes point toward \$7-10K cost. Diocese requirements for fence/lock and supervision. Opinion that this will connect with young families and make the Parish more attractive to youth. Council motioned and approved to recommend a “go forward” to Father.
- Livestreaming: Activity was approved to move forward, with Deacon & Noah driving. Drop from forward agenda.

New Business

- Parish Synodal Consultation: Plan to hold consultation in multiple meetings after Easter (late April/early May) to keep focus on Lent. Need to assemble team to act as small group discussion leaders and note takers. Letter will be sent to parishioners, and need to determine how to connect to those away from Church/Mass. Pray during Lent for a good feedback activity. Report due to Diocese by June 1.
- Community Outreach – Nixa Dog Park sponsorship: Chan family obtained sponsorship opportunities, with several options ranging from \$150 on up. Council motioned and passed to recommend some type of sponsorship to Father, who will pray on this.

Committee Reports

- Stewardship Council: Will move Treasure Intention form to Fall timing to not conflict with DDF. Evening of Gratitude postponed to when no-mask comfort level increases. Prayer Commitment planned for Mar 5-6 weekend to complement Lenten prayer list. Split form will be taken home for personal prayer/dropped in basket for parish prayer during Lent.
- Finance Council: Income continues to exceed expenses. Finance also OK with playground idea. Looking at lighting upgrades for parking lot and grounds.
- Liturgical Ministries: Altar servers in shadow training. Ushers are being trained on the job.
- Parish Outreach/Community Service: Rosary Guild continues in ministry, with supply challenges but no reduction in number of Rosaries made. Loving Stitches continue to meet every Thursday, but looking for new/younger members – “Long range plans? We’re all at least 78!” Finally, sixty “God loves you” bags were assembled and distributed to 3 different charities – and there is more interest!
- Parish Enrichment: Cleaning ministry going well. K of C Fish Fries will be drive-through, \$12/plate, \$40 for family-of-4.
- Faith Formation/Education: Lent program will be Forgiven. Little Black Books coming. Link to Dynamic Catholic Lenten programs. Men’s Conference at Springfield Catholic Sat Feb 26. Youth Liturgy has split into two age groups. Next 4-6 weeks will have renewed focus on Youth programs – Theology of the Body, Joy of Life, social activities, etc.

Closing Prayer: Clark Parmley, with blessing from Fr. Reidy

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted by Linda Howard and Jeff Chan