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| **PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES** | |
| **Meeting Date / Time** | September 26, 2022 / 7:30 PM |
| **Place / Room** | Social Hall Meeting Room |
| **Parish Council Member Attendees** | Father Anthony Hangholt, Pastor  Deacon Matt Horvath, Parish Deacon  Cameron Bowser, Council President  Dave Klauder, Council Vice President  Barb Jaruszewski, Council Secretary  Bill Robinson, Hospitality Ministry  Dawn McCausland, Liturgy Ministry  Rich Sahlender, Technology Team  Ray Carr, Member at large  Karen Katrinak, Member at large  Wendy Benner, Coordinator of Religious Education  Chris Mullaney, Parish Legal Advisor |
| **Parishioners** | Pat Belsky  Catherine Cahill  Joellen Carr  Jane Ciampaglia  Doris Decker  Charles Doherty  Dawn Ellis  Theresa Gilmore  John Johnson  Marlene Leidy  Marg Keeney  Maureen Stoll  Joan Wieder |

1. REFLECTION

Cameron Bowser opened with a Reflection: The Sermon on the Mount – Matthew 5:1-16

1. GENERAL COMMENTS

Cameron Bowser indicated that Parish Council is going through alteration – we want to reenergize the parish.

1. NEXT GENERATION

Father Anthony introduced the Next Generation program. It is a 4-year initiative adopted by the Archdiocese of Phila and designed by the Catholic Leadership Institute to re-energize parishes to journey as Jesus’ disciples into the future.

St Philip Neri was selected as one of 14 parishes gifted the Next Generation program.

Father Anthony shared the following introductory thoughts on the Next Generation program:  
Church is to be a mission; we are to be mission disciples.

To make disciples

* There is a difference between knowing and following Jesus
* Lens though which we try to evaluate our parish
  + All programs
  + All expenditures
  + All use of buildings

1. EAST GREENVILLE PROPERTY

Father Anthony indicated that the church property in East Greenville has been relegated as a church. The Archdiocese will provide a decree to finalize the relegation hopefully by the end of October.

1. BY-LAWS

Cameron Bowser indicated that Parish Council is working on update to by-laws. There is a need for a couple ministry leads to fill vacancies. Father will attempt to fill these needs and may lean forward on Next Generation program to provide insight on working to fill leads.

1. Synod

Cameron Bowser reported that SPN Synod findings are to be summarized and posted to the parish website. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops released their findings on Synod and will be posted to parish website.

1. Hospitality Ministry Report

Bill Robinson provided a written report on his ministry’s efforts since the last Parish Council and summarized his report at the meeting.

1. PREP

Wendy Benner reported there are 150 children enrolled in PREP

IX. Tech Team

Cameron Bowser thanked the Tech Team (Rich Sahlender) for launching our new website. Parishioners in attendance voiced their appreciation of the new site.

1. Parish Outreach

Cameron Bowser indicated that the Parish Outreach Ministry is a large ministry that needs a lead. Father Anthony is working on this vacancy.

1. Members at Large

Both Karen Katrinak and Ray Carr were in attendance. Neither had been approached by parishioners to address any questions or concerns with Parish Council.

1. Cameron Bowser requested the ministry leads to take opportunities to set up a table and advertise the ministries work at a Parish Breakfast.
2. Parishioner Comments
   * A parishioner brought to Parish Council’s attention that the first Monday of each month, a hot meal is provided to the community from the Pennsburg UCC. It was suggested that St Philip may want to investigate the program and participate in providing a meal. Father Anthony would agree to get more details about the program.
   * Ideas on how to get high school level children more involved in parish life were discussed.
     + Father Anthony indicated that he and Wendy Benner are working a program to have one grade of Prep be responsible for the 10:00 Mass the first Sunday of each month. The children will participate in the Readings and the Offertory.
     + A parishioner suggested that our high school teens be asked to assist in the offertory collection. Father will follow up with the ushers on this suggestion.
     + Father indicated he is working ideas to have a young family group so that our children can grow up together and share the faith together as families. Hopeful that the Next Generation program will provide insights / ideas with this initiative.
   * It was recognized that the parish’s greatest need for growth was the area of communication. Parish Council will pursue ideas for improvement here. One of the first adjustments will be communicating more through the parish bulletin.
   * A question was asked on the growth of the parish over the last couple of years. Father indicated that the parish had about 50 new families in 2022 and about 40 families in 2021. Father indicated he would provide additional numbers at the next meeting.
   * A suggestion that Parish Council members need to be more visible to the parish community. The following ideas were discussed:
     + Members’ names be listed in bulletin
     + members’ photos on the website (this action is already being worked)
     + members were name tags with names on
   * A recommendation was made to add color to the bulletin for appearance and readability
   * A parishioner indicated that the parish Facebook looks great! Thanks, Jinky!
   * A suggestion was made to update the speaker system in the church. Father indicated that he has had three estimates on an update to the system and the lowest estimate was $32000.
   * Parishioners would like to see updates to the music program. We believe this will be worked as part of the Next Generation program.
   * Parishioners would like the parish to consider some ways to welcome new parishioners and visitors. Some ideas discussed:
     + Bring families together after Mass for coffee and donuts.
     + Father’s idea on a young family group is exciting.
     + Next Generation program is expected to help in this area as well.
   * A suggestion for the parish to support Ukraine was made.
     + Parish did collect items deliver to Ukrainian church in Lansdale in the spring.
     + Is there something that we could do to support brighten their holidays?
3. Air Conditioning

Father Anthony reported that the air conditioning is taking longer than we hoped for. Issue with insurance company getting what they need from police on the damage. Three estimates have been obtained for the work. We should be able to use the hall through the fall and winter as the hall will have heat.

1. Finances

Father Anthony plans to announce summary report with decree for relegation of the church in East Greenville at the end of October and a full report by year end.

1. General Comments

Next council meeting – tentatively scheduled for Oct. 24. Will be announced.