

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, September 14, 2022, 7:00 – 8:30 PM Conference Room

Present: Jim Braniff, Laura De Boisblanc, Antonio Del Rosario, Fr. Hilbert, Marguerite Lucarelli, Letty Moss-Salentijn, Sarah Tintle

Fr. Yesalonia

Absent: Paul Capetillo, John Mancuso

Guests: Rose Di Martino, Scott Warren

Agenda N.B. The order of the Agenda items was changed to accommodate the guest speakers.

1. **Prayer.** The Pastor opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. **Introduction of New Members.** The Council welcomed new members Marguerite Lucarelli and Antonio Del Rosario. They introduced themselves with some autobiographical information and their involvement with the parish. Then the other members briefly introduced themselves to Marguerite and Antonio.
3. **Discussion: Courageous Women of Faith Banners.** Rose Di Martino was introduced to the members. Rose is the Co-chair of the “Courageous Women of Faith” ministry. She described the origin of the ministry as a desire to highlight and celebrate living witnesses, models of faith, in particular courageous women. We have many statues of men saints in the church, but few women. In March 2022, the ministry organized an evening event in the church to honor three women with banners that were commissioned for the event. The common message of the women was, “What can I do?” The inspiration of these women, dedicated to labor rights, environmental rights and housing rights, was greatly felt. They were also honored with the “Mary Magdalene Award,” given every year to outstanding women on the occasion of International Women’s Day. The funding for the initiative was provided by many small donations from a wide range of parishioners and friends. The banners have remained in the church and Wallace Hall and will be removed for the Advent banners. The members shared their personal experiences upon seeing the banners, and their great pride in the parish for this wonderful initiative.
4. **Staff Presentation: Scott Warren, Director of Music Ministries.** Scott joined the parish music department in 2012. He presented to the Council the “nuts and bolts” of the Music Department which depends on teamwork to fulfill their important ministry in the parish.
 - a. The Music Department provides music for 475 liturgies per year. These include 300 weekend Masses, 40-50 weddings and 40-50 funerals. In addition, they animate all the IREP liturgies, prepare special Parish Masses (e.g., Anointing, Parish Memorial, Welcome Mass, etc.). During COVID, the music department excelled in arranging virtual rehearsals and livestreamed performances.

- b.** There are seven choirs in the parish: Professional, PCC, Wallace Hall, Canticum Sacrum, and three children's choirs: Training, Angels, and Chorale.
 - c.** The concert series is in its 33rd year, with 11 concerts scheduled for 2022-2023.
 - d.** The staff of the department consists of Scott Warren (Director), Bobby Reuter, Michael Sheetz, Elizabeth van Os, Danny Beckwith, Danya Katok.
- 5. Review of Minutes 8 June 2022.** The members had received the minutes from the June Council meeting, and the Pastor asked that any comments be sent to him.
- 6. Report: Pastor.** The Pastor referred members to his Letter which was to be published in the Bulletin and e-Newsletter on the weekend of September 17th. He updated the council on work to the physical plant that is ongoing, noting in particular the new Reception area in the Parish House, the acoustical improvements in Wallace Hall, the accessibility ramp for the School building, and the front door and awning at the entrance to the Parish House.
- 7. Discussion: Vision Statement *Implementation*.** With a brief review of the process undergone thus far, the Pastor explained the final stage of implementation of the Parish Vision Statement which he outlined in his letter to the parish on September 18th. This will be organized around four committees, each corresponding to one of the major headings of the Vision Statement: a. We Welcome All; b. We Worship With Joy; c. We walk Together With Those in Need; and d. We Reverence God in the Wonder of Creation. The Pastor is asking for volunteers to join one of the committees and hopes that council members will be among the volunteers.
- 8. Calendar of 2022-2023 Meetings.** Confirmed.
- 9. Other Business:** The preparations for the Snowball Dance on December 10 were discussed.

The Pastor concluded the meeting with a prayer.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

The next meeting is Wednesday 12 October 2022.