

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. MARK
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
September 23, 2021**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Fr. Anthony Mpungu, Pastor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ricky Andrade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Linda Major Parish Life	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fe Guzman, Religious Formation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hank Harzold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deacon John Kren	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sharon Katzman, Religious Formation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Fritsch			
Joyce Gridley, Justice and Peace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steven Schlossberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Mike Johnson, Liturgy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lacy Favila			
Parish Secretary Kathryn Flannigan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael King- Parishioner-At Large	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Hank 6:02pm: Excerpt from Everyday Stewardship as opening prayer.

I. Standing Items

- a. **Review/Discussion of Standing Committees:** Due to timeliness of meeting, all standing committee reports were submitted and read by the council members previously without additional comment.
- b. **Calendar Items: (Hank)**
 - i. October 4: Feast of St Francis. Blessing of animals at 5:30pm and 7pm Mass.
 - ii. October 28: Next/Last Parish Council meeting of the year. November meeting would be Thanksgiving and December meeting would be day before Christmas.
 - iii. December 3: Christmas Potluck: Hank emailed group about Friday the 3rd for Parish Council potluck meal (with spouses). Only a few email replies, but group agreed in person that it would be good time/date. Hank will put together an email sign up for dishes to bring and email it out closer to event.
 - iv. January 27, 2022 will be our next PC meeting.
- c. **Assistance for Afghan Refugees:**
 - i. Joyce: The Diocese of Richmond has asked individual parishes within the diocese to take part on some level with the newly received Afghan refugees in the Richmond and Newport News areas. The Diocese does not have a specific program that we will partake in, so we are at least trying to

form a volunteer group to begin brainstorming and planning. We have 4 people so far, but very interested in having more people help. There will be opportunities to volunteer our time and to raise funds for financial assistance. Please email me if you're interested in joining.

- ii. **Meeting in Person:** Hank: We will continue to meet in person for our October meeting as long as the Covid protocols remain the same and cases remain low.

II. Old Business

- a. **Ministry Summary for constitution:** Hank: Do we want to continue to pursue this?
Fe: I think it would be a good idea to continue to pursue so we could revise our website with the most accurate information. It is the ministries' responsibility to update and give the information to Brian so he can add to the website.
Hank: Not having an impending date of completion is why this hasn't gotten done yet. Group discussed and came up with due date of October 28th deadline to revise ministry descriptions.
Deacon John: If you have a bio and image for Parish Council, you may want to update that as well. Hank:
The staff bio is about 3 sentences long so I can create a standard and send that out for reference.

III. New Business

- a. **Linda/Parish Life Bulletin Board:** We had our PL meeting this past Tuesday night, but when we came into the Great Hall our bulletin board is behind where the choir practices so it is not visible anymore. Not sure if they plan to remain practicing in the Great Hall or if we can move our bulletin board down. I see there is a blank one not in use but not sure who it belongs to.
Sharon: Offered the unused Formation bulletin Board for Parish Life's use for time being.
- b. **Fr Anthony Time:** I am glad we have the 'Everyday Stewardship' book now. We can either pick someone to read aloud during each meeting and reflect as a group. Or we can read the next 10-15 pages on our own so we can allow the words to sink in. We are looking for something informative and relevant. It is up to us to think deeply about it. Let's do 4 sub-titles to start. Then we can carry it from there. What does Tracy intend when he says, 'Live an extraordinary life'? For the potluck in December, if each of us can identify at least 1 person in our Church community who touches your life when you see them at Church, then please bring them along as a guest to our potluck. God has called us to be here and to invite someone in. Jesus said, 'Come and follow me', 'be not afraid'. Let us think about a phrase or acronym that when it is mentioned, people will understand and know what we are talking about. How do we perceive information? It is through consistency and repetition, but it also has to be of value. Some people may never have been invited and some people may be there but not fully there. We help build the community when someone gets acknowledged. As for the assistance for the refugees from the Diocese, they did not give us a specific plan. This could have political undertones so the message has to be well formed. There are some people that are not happy about this so we have to be aware of what has to be done. We could look at Catholic Charities, work with them, and go through their guidelines so that we know how to go about this. We don't want to stretch ourselves thin, but if something is worth doing, and then we can proceed. We will have to make sure to put out a well

thought out message to the community so it doesn't get skewed. In regards to the ministry fair, the end of the liturgical year is the feast of Christ the King on November 21st. My plan is to have a crowning of the whole year since it will be the end of the year, liturgically. That weekend we can have a renewal of commitment. What will it mean to live our daily stewardship? It is intended for everyone as you come to St Mark, like a renewal of baptismal promises and extends to the depths of Jesus' ministries: Priest, Prophet, and King. In Christ the Priest, we see the sanctifying office, the salvation of souls. Ministries like liturgy, lectors, and Eucharistic ministers are part of this. Christ as the Prophet is the teaching office. Ministries like Bible Study, Formation classes, and meetings correspond to this. Christ as the King represents the governing office, leadership within our Church. All Baptized Catholics hold this position. It also belongs to groups like CAST and K of C, Parish Life, and Justice & Peace. We will be building to that Sunday so that when it arrives we will be able to renew and recommit. We will give effort and energy to lead up to that day. It all has to do with our stewardship. We must guide people into these areas.

Linda: Can we add this to the bulletin? Do you want the ministries to promote this on their own or host a ministry fair?

Fr: When we look at leadership we can look for a better way, so we will try something new. By the time November 14th arrives, we will make it very clear what our mission is. We can have something in the bulletin. We will look at November for the fair. As these minutes go out to the council, I will include a reflection about this. Thank you all for coming.

Closing prayer led by Fr Anthony: at 6:58pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Kathryn Flannigan