

## **St. Patrick's Parish Council**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**February 16, 2022**

### **Parish Meeting Room**

**Present:** Monsignor Ferry, Father Joseph, Joe DiCicco, Richard Juliana, Bill Kelleher, Tom Kennedy, Eileen Melican, Erin O' Donnell, Heather Trotta, Gary Vessecchia

**Absent:** Gerri Alfino, Diane Bamford, Guy Carlsen, Patti Juliana, Donna Marino, Biaggio Mignone, Karen Schmidt

**Opening Prayer:** Monsignor opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:33 pm

**Minutes:** The minutes from January 19, 2022 were distributed and adopted.

**Pastor's Report:** Msgr. stated that Gov. Kathy Hochul has lifted the mask mandate for public assemblies. Parishioners are welcome to wear masks at Church or not wear them.

**President's Update:** Gary opened his remarks noting that the parish council officer positions of President, Vice President, and Secretary are two- year terms. He stated that the present officers will serve through to summer. At this time, new officers will be nominated and elected. Gary will place a notice in the bulletin that if any parishioner wishes to join the parish council, that they contact him. Gary introduced the new member, Tom Kennedy, and asked that Tom give a brief biography. Tom noted that he moved to Bedford in 2009 and enrolled in the parish. His four children were all baptized at St. Patrick's. His wife chaired the Mothers and Tots program. Subsequent to moving to Bedford, Tom grew up in the Hudson River towns, attending Immaculate Conception in Irvington, Iona Prep, and Fordham University. He serves on the town board for Bedford Village, volunteered in Northern Ireland, and is a lecturer at St. Patrick's. His daughter is an altar server.

### **Ministry Updates:**

**Altar Servers:** It was discussed at previous council meeting that Father Joseph would train new altar servers. The training will comprise of five, 45 minute sessions. Tom suggested that with Father Joseph's permission, he would record the sessions, in the event that a trainee missed a one of the mandatory five sessions. Monsignor will place a notice to be sent by email to parishioners. It was proposed that the training sessions will begin March 3<sup>rd</sup> through April 7<sup>th</sup> for boys and girls in third grade and above. Interested altar servers will contact Tom Kennedy. Erin asked if it were possible for Father Joseph to conduct a one session refresher course for those present altar servers who have not been able to serve for the past two years due to covid. Father Joseph agreed. Time and date to be announced.

**CCD:** Joe D. spoke on behalf of Karen for the religious education program. He highlighted the following: All instruction has returned to in-person learning, the second graders received First

Penance on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, and the older students are involved in three community service projects:

*Feed our Neighborhood Weekend*

*Project Linus* where by students sew blankets for those in need. They do this remotely led by the chairwoman Adele Shapiro.

*Crafts for Children* - part of the Maria Fareri organization.

The CCD offices have moved to the Cenacle building.

**New Updates:**

Hawthorn School: Msgr. stated that the Hawthorn school signed a three-year lease with option to extend for two more years. The school will assume the cost of all utilities and plan to invest approximately \$500,000 in renovations to the property. It is agreed that St. Patrick's Carnival, CYO and CCD programs will be able to continue using the facility at their designated times.

Sign Up Genius: Heather asked about the present status of this program. Tom will speak to Mary tomorrow to set up Sign Up Genius. He proposed a template for signing up lecturers for March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>. The sign up will be user friendly for volunteers. The sign- up template will not include Easter week at this time. He will set up a separate template for Holy Week and Easter Sunday masses.

Capital Repairs: Joe D. raised the question of any upcoming needed repairs. Msgr. spoke about the audio system and the needed adjustment to the bells. Tom and Joe volunteered to meet with Charlie George about correcting the bell system. Tom agreed to volunteer his services to look into the present audio system used in the church.

Meeting concluded with a prayer by Father Joseph at 8:35 pm.

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