

## **St. Cronan Parish Council Minutes**

February 2, 2022 @ 7pm

**Secretary** = *Mariah*; **Task-Keeper** = *Justin* (Diane serving in Justin's stead)

Present: Melanie Ernst, Mariah Byrne, Jennifer Hoffman, Mary Ward, Fr. Jack Schuler, Diane Gozdziwski, John Gozdziwski, Shelly Kurtz, Erin O'Connell, Donna Zuroweste, David Gaillardetz, Sr. Clare Bass, Marcia Koester, Andrew Viragh

Absent: Justin Lorenz

### **Dyad Check-Ins** (7-7:10)

### **Opening Prayer** (Shelly)

### **Minutes**

Parish Council reviewed minutes from December 2021 meeting and January 2022 retreat. Fr. Jack supplemented information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development 's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Sr. Clare supplemented information about lifting up staff for their hard work. Melanie will update attendance information and add shared information to December notes. Donna made a motion to approve both sets of meeting minutes with shared updates. David seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Old Business** (7:15-7:45)

Fr. Jack shared updates about All things New. Sr. Chabanel will read a letter kicking off All Things New for the parish on February 6<sup>th</sup>, and Fr. Jack will announce the parish's five key leaders. Fr. Jack shared that the Archbishop is using the framework of evangelization but that he and the Archbishop have differing definitions of evangelization. The Vicar of Priests has asked for ideas for creating new kinds of ministries. The overarching goals of All Things New are unceasing prayer, unifying vision, and stewardship. Fr. Jack shared that all aspects of the Archdiocese are under review and that they are currently using a model from the 1950's. Fr. Jack encourages parishioners, especially Parish Council members, to complete the email survey to be sent by Archdiocese. The All Things New process will begin this Spring with meetings, survey review, and an exploration of new parish models. The Archdiocese intends to host 400 listening sessions for parishioners. A list of times/dates/locations is not yet available. In the Fall, they will begin developing a plan that will be implemented beginning in Pentecost 2023 and continue over the course of five years. Other dioceses are utilizing the synodal process outlined by Pope Francis. However, the Archdiocese of St. Louis is using a hybrid model. In general, the U.S. is pulling back from Pope Francis' intentions.

Fr. Jack did not have a COVID-19 update to share since he just returned from Mexico. Mariah asked about baking bread for Eucharist. Diane shared that they have not started using homemade bread yet and that there is a loaf from January in the freezer.

Melanie reviewed the parish goals & priorities developed by Justin, Mariah, and herself. The group attempted to differentiate long-term goals derived from mission statement and 2022 priorities that pressing for the next calendar year. The three priorities are developing a framework to seek to become anti-racist parish, preparing strategically in the All Things New process, and promoting the visibility of St. Cronan's and its committees. Melanie shared that the group thought about instituting liaisons from the Parish Council for long-term goals to provide updates and accountability and make the relationship between the Council and committees more person-centered. Fr. Jack suggested that we include outreach to the LGBTQIA community as part of the first priority, because that is unique for us as a parish. Donna offered to be liaison for St. Vincent de Paul and Food Pantry as well as the Contemplative Prayer Group. Al is the leader of the Social Justice Ministry, and Trish leads the Racial Equity Ministry. Sr. Clare leads Volunteer Appreciation. Jennifer offered to be the liaison for Prayer Shawls, Book Club, and the Gardening Committee. Donna asked to add Compassionate St. Louis as a strategy under developing an inclusive church community. Erin suggested having two roles per goal—one person who is running the Committee and another who is the Parish Council liaison. Melanie will update the responsibility/liasion list and send it out to the Parish Council. Fr. Jack is interested in instituting a formal LGBTQIA ministry

Andrew shared an update on behalf of the Anti-Bias Anti-Racism Subcommittee. Andrew was under the impression that the team was working on a time to share its survey during the mass announcements and said he has materials for review. Andrew will check with Diane and Fr. Jack to schedule the mass announcement. The announcement will occur before Lent.

Jennifer provided an update on the Fundraising Committee. Jennifer plans to reach out to Helen to discuss the past year's fundraising efforts and welcomes comments about fundraising strategy. Jennifer shared that flower sales have been successful and that we could extend an option to do Mother's Day sales. Jennifer also suggested hosting a trivia night. Fr. Jack shared that he will likely have Finance report for the next Parish Council meeting. Parish finances are in good standing.

Erin shared that she talked to Christine Lakey about the Hospitality Committee. The Hospitality Committee welcomes new members and connects them to ministries. Ideally the Committee would host a welcome event, but that has been postponed due to COVID. The Committee currently has five greeters. Mary has updated the welcome packets, which include Parish Council biographies and contact information, and is keeping those in stock. Christine is working on creating a visitor log for the back of church. Currently, Christine reaches out to new parish members, and Fr. Jack and Diane also follow up.

Sr. Clare shared that there was no volunteer promotion in January. Sr. Clare plans to lift up Theresa, Loren, and the other parishioners that helped start the small groups in February. Diane will provide the contact list to Sr. Clare. Fr. Jack shared that we could lift up the organizers of Men's and Women's Retreats in future. Sr. Clare shared that anyone is welcome to suggest volunteers to lift up.

Melanie and Fr. Jack presented on the Letter to the Archbishop. Fr. Jack submitted a formal request for the Archbishop to visit but has not received a response. Fr. Jack plans to contact the Chancellor to follow up. Melanie asked about reading the letter during mass announcements. Fr. Jack wants to wait until we get a response about scheduling. Fr. Jack asked Melanie to introduce new Parish Council members during the mass announcements.

Melanie and Erin reminded Parish Council members to sign-up for meeting roles.

### **New Business** (7:45-8:05)

Mary shared that we have a donor for a banner to carry at events and for new banners on the side of the church building. We need to design the event banner, keeping in mind that it has be useful for all types of events. Mary is interested in having design happen in-house to maintain church ownership of the design. David and Donna are willing to work on banner wording, and Erin is willing to help with design. Fr. Jack suggested incorporating short scripture passage

Donna presented on St. Cronan's becoming a Compassionate St. Louis partner. In becoming a partner, we would publicly declare who we are and include the logo on printed media (website, bulletin, banner, etc.) It costs \$10/month to be a sponsoring partner, and Compassionate St. Louis asks that all members of the governing board become members, that we include information in our bulletin, and that we speak about the effort from the lectern. If we sign, we would be the first and only Catholic parish so far. Donna made a motion to become a Compassionate St. Louis partner. Erin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mary will register the parish as a partner.

Melanie read a handwritten note from Midtown Community Services' Barbara Schaefer for St. Cronan's investment in replacing their carpet. Donna confirmed that church owns Midtown's property and raised the possible impact on Midtown as part of All Things New.

Melanie shared that she sent an email welcoming Sister Cathy Doherty to St. Cronan's. Diane and Melanie sent emails to a new parish member, Christina, who is a Sister of St. Joseph. Christina is interested in adult faith formation.

### **Fr. Jack's Report** (8:05-8:10)

Fr. Jack received the Archdiocesan Catholic Appeal, which will begin in April. Roland Martel and Glenn Eckert will co-chair. Our goal is \$13,455, and our challenge goal is \$20,052.

Fr. Jack received an email from Reconciliation Project inviting to him to their banquet because of the parish's involvement in racial equity. Fr. Jack is asking that Trish be invited in his stead. He also received an email from Alderwoman Tina Phil about the Affordable Housing Report Card.

Fr. Jack plans to check back in with the Health Task Force about the Omicron variant and any new variants.

Fr. Jack asked the Parish Council to keep Bill Barrett in our prayers.

### **Diane's Report** (8:10-8:15)

Diane shared that the Parish Council list is outdated on the website and that she is trying to figure out how to update it. John agreed to help. Diane recently updated the website calendar.

Diane announced that the Lenten focus will be simple living and the environment.

Diane shared that parishioners seem interested in an assembly related to All Things New. David suggested hosting an assembly after the All Things New webinars in May.

John working on getting Diane a new Lenovo laptop and Microsoft Office Suite.

Diane asked if she should make an announcement encouraging mass attendees to visit with one another after church. Fr. Jack does not currently want people staying to visit at church due to COVID.

### **Mary's Report** (8:15-8:20)

Mary shared that carpeting replacement at Midtown is complete. The carpeting was a safety hazard (rips, worn through). St. Cronan's received a \$750 donation to put toward the carpeting. The parish will cover the balance.

Mary reviewed the Parish Wish List. Mary stated that she can probably find a Blessed Mother statue within the donation amount. Mary is going to reach out to the laptop donor to see if they are ok with the excess funds going to painting the Parish Center. Mary has a quote for painting from the grandson of a parishioner. The parishioner has offered to cover the balance between donations and the cost.

Mary shared that she received the insurance check for the roof.

**Task-Keeper Report** (Diane)

**Closing Prayer** (John G)

*Next Meeting: Mar 2nd, 2022 @ 7pm.*

**Secretary = Jennifer; Task-Keeper = Mariah**

**Opening Prayer = Marcia; Closing Prayer = Melanie**