

Parish Council Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Present: Fr. Paul, Fr. Jonathon, Hailey, Edgar, Wayne, Cathy, Cristina, Trevor, Katia, Matthew, Peter, Josephene

Absent: Bob, Marie

1. Hailey opened our meeting
2. Fr. Paul lead us in prayer, and we shared our intentions with Mother Mary.
3. Minutes approved.
4. August action points reviewed
5. We need to watch the last two CCO Multiply conference before December 5.
 - Josephene to survey three groups regarding dates: November 27 or December 4

Testimonies: to discuss frequency, choice of individuals, timing during Mass, and training. Fr. Paul proposed the last Sunday of the month, following a shorter homily, starting with leadership teams (Parish Council and PLT). We propose using the CCO model of how to give a testimonial which is available as a workshop through the Multiply conference. We formed a subcommittee for this initiative:

- Matthew and Cristina, who will brainstorm and present their ideas at the next meeting.

Edgar proposed that overall, we need a larger aim for changing the culture in our parish. Small actions are valuable, but we need a goal that all of this is pointed towards. Fr. Paul reminded us that the role of the Volunteer Coordinator is a key element in this aim. Hailey brought up the challenge of helping our parish leaders experience conversions to engender cultural transformation (eg. In the past, we held virtual retreats for the Ministry Heads). Peter advises that we need to help them feel reintegrated into the parish and that in order to do so, we need to 'step back' in our approach to find out more about them as individuals. Cristina asked, rhetorically, if ministries have individual goals themselves? And to help align those goals with the parish's greater aim.

How do we create an environment in which we are all aiming for the same goal?

- It was suggested that Parish Council host an Alpha for all Ministry Heads. To discuss next month.
- Edgar shared that Couples for Christ run a similar faith-based (Catholic) program and offered to outline it for us at the next meeting.

Matthew advises that we be careful that we frame these initiatives for the ministries in such a way that we keep in mind that we asking "more" of them.

6. The monthly ministry check-ins were reviewed. It is agreed that we must continue our outreach to the ministries, but to reduce the frequency and increase the intimacy, such as making phone calls.

- Josephene to refresh ministry list so that they can be divided up between PC members.

7. Peter reviewed the Volunteer Coordinator status. The position will start on a part-time basis. Finance has already confirmed its commitment to the salary (as announced at the AGM).

- Peter, Edgar, and Fr. Paul agreed to team-up to continue working on this initiative.
- Peter will solicit help from the diocese for a check on the job description.

It was proposed that the title of the position change.

At this point, Josephene got a little tired of typing up the minutes, and made herself some tea.

8. Cristina shared that the parents of little children with little, lost, or no practice of “being at Mass” need support and encouragement to return. Fr. Paul said we were permitted as a parish to restart a children’s liturgy program, for example, but we lack volunteers. Edgar and Peter shared that there are many reasons people don’t want to return to church. It’s a complicated issue.

9. None

10. Fr. Jonathon led us in prayer.

11. Next meeting: October 20 at 7pm in the Upper Room.

12 Meeting adjourned.