

St. John Vianney Parish Council Minutes

December 3, 2019

6:30 PM Parish Offices

Council Members Present: Catherine Camden, Patty Lambrou, Kim McCarthy, Fr. Joe Pescatello, Michael Woody

Council Members Absent: Jeffrey Adams, Pat Bradley, Walter Burke, Deacon Paul Lambert, Jason Macari, Tess Mota

Ministry Leaders Present: Pat Draper (Director of Religious Education)

- **Call to order**

Fr. Joe called the meeting to order with a prayer.

Kim presented a personalized cake to thank Patty and Jason for their service on the Council.

- **Nominations for two open council seats**

No nominations have been received for the two open council seats. Patty suggested that we revisit the list of candidates from the first council election to identify potential recruits. On perusing the list, the council identified Sheila Liotta and Sarah Bielecki as two potential additions to the council. Kim will contact both to determine interest. If they show no interest, the next step is to re-announce in January that nominations (and self-nominations) are being solicited. Also, nomination forms will be made available at the gift-wrapping party this weekend.

- **Christmas gift program**

The parish sponsored 60 children this year for Christmas gifts through Children's Friends and Services. The wrapping party will be held after Masses on Sunday. A sign of the success of this year's program is that the quantity of gifts require that a U-Haul be rented to deliver them. Kim will secure the U-Haul and the parish will reimburse her for the expense.

- **Religious education evacuation plan**

Pat Draper reported that there is now an evacuation plan in place for children attending religious education classes in the church basement. The labyrinth has been designated as the gathering place if children are evacuated from the basement. Pat also reported

that the outside doors are locked when the children are there, preventing anyone from entering the building without knocking.

Pat also noted that Denis Robichaud has created a slide for the slide deck that scrolls before the Masses, which points out the emergency exits.

- **Other security/greeter issues**

Members of the new greeter ministry will function as security “eyes and ears” during the Masses. It was also suggested to target former law enforcement personnel as potential members of the greeter ministry. Kim will contact David DaRosa, a parishioner who is a Cumberland police officer, to gauge his interest in serving as a greeter. A note will also be placed in an upcoming bulletin asking for volunteers for the greeter ministry.

Fr. Joe reported that a police detail will be in place for the Masses taking place on Christmas Eve.

New security lights have been added just outside the main entryway to the church and at the back of the parking lot. A security camera facing the parking lot has also been added.

It was pointed out that we continue to have a problem with Mass attendees parking in the fire lane on the exit driveway at the north side of the church. Pat Draper will ask Denise to put an announcement in the bulletin pointing out the safety hazards that are created when Mass attendees park in the fire lane.

- **Capital Campaign update**

Michael reported that the current amount raised through the campaign is \$659,000, or 86% of our goal. He expressed optimism that we will make goal before the Christmas deadline. Members of the campaign committee will be available to answer questions, both in the gathering space and downstairs at the gift-wrapping party, after each of the Masses this Sunday.

- **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 7th at 6:30 PM.