Parish Council Meeting

May 21,26 / 7:00 P.M. / Parish Life Center

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Attendees

Amy Wilson, Danny Hayes, Jake Bogardus, Marcy Buis, Fr. Douglas Hunter, Jenni Spitznagel, Peggy Reeves, Jeff Veldhoff, Mary Anne Schaefer, Michelle Feltman, Paul Schmoll

Absent (Excused)

Angela White

Agenda

Opening Prayer

- Meeting started at 6:59 P.M. with a prayer by Paul Schmoll

Roll Call

- Secretary Marcy Buis conducted roll call. Eleven in attendance and one excused.

Prior Meeting Minutes

- Minutes from March 19, 2026 meeting approved (Motion: Jake Bogardus; Second: Michelle Feltman)

Old Business

- Parish Council Meeting dates for the rest of the year:
    - July 16
    - September 17
    - November 19

Ministerial Reports

- Spiritual Formation - Jenni Spitznagel
    - OCIA - 12 people were welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil
        - Thanks to the Women's Club for the gifts

    - Thirty students (between school and religious ed) made First Communion
    - Bible study ending on June 8. Will begin again in August
    - Watching and discussing The Chosen Season 5 on Wednesday evenings at 7 P.M. in June and July
    - No Vacation Bible School this summer: low numbers, no financial approval
    - Five parishioners will be making their Confirmation at the Cathedral on May 31st.
    - Sam Hansen will be ordained June 6 at the Cathedral. Mass of Thanksgiving June 7 at 10:30 at St. Roch with reception afterward
        - All invited to attend Ordination and Mass of Thanksgiving
- School Report - Amy Wilson
    - Good staff retention - only losing one
    - Enrollment: 249 students (Currently 272)
        - Decrease in part due to large 8th grade class graduation and smaller pre-school class coming in
        - Ten students leaving which came as somewhat as a surprise (declared after Amy announced she was leaving)
        - Typically lose 10-14 students each year
    - Parishioner Comment: We love Amy! Wish her luck at Roncalli
- Finance Report - Peggy Reeves
    - Finance Council met May 7th
    - Hiring a new business manager once new priest arrives
    - $750,000 loan from the Archdiocese
        - No terms set for repayment
        - Once parish is stabilized, terms will be set
    - $314,000 loan from Archdiocese for expenses accrued from January to May
        - St. Roch in arrears to Archdiocese for assessments for Roncalli
        - 2% interest rate on this loan
    - Not paying Agresta, Storms, & O'Leary for the work they are doing. Any bills from them have been paid by the Archdiocese and other services being provided at no charge
    - Parishioner questions/concerns
        - Where does the money received from donations go?
            - Utilities, property taxes, any bill that comes in
            - Current on bills
        - Some parishioners have not been notified of receipt of donations and matching donations for years
        - When is this going to end? When is the completion of the audit?
            - A long time. Still trying to get into credit card account to get full picture.
        - John Schneider opened credit card account for the Parish

        - Account has been suspended - being in review
        - Trying to access account information
        - Credit card statements are necessary for the audit - will show where money was spent
        - Archdiocese has John's laptop and passwords - not sure why Archdiocese can't access this account
        - Is John's opening of the credit card account criminal? Have we reached out to Prosecutor about the criminality of this case?
            - That is handled by Archdiocese's general counsel, Jay Mercer
- Need to investigate to find out the full picture of any wrongdoing or incompetence
- Why did it take a debt of $700,000 before it was noticed?
- Let the process play out, let the audit happen
- Do we know how much of the debt is Parish operations and School operations? What specific business projects or operating losses contributed to the debt?
    - Don't have that breakdown
- Paul Schmoll has compiled a list of frequently asked questions and answers that he will distribute after the meeting
- Does Fr. Tim know what is going on in the Parish? Yes.
- Where does school voucher money go? School salaries
    - School budget being worked on - will be published moving forward
- Archdiocese essentially running the parish - why are they not at the meeting?
    - Archdiocese stepped in to save us
    - Parishes are run at local level
    - St. Roch Parish dropped the ball
    - Must come together as a community to fix this
- Archdiocese should be doing audits every 3 years - they are not doing that
- A lot of capital expenditures - roof, tuck point, air conditioning units, parish life center updates
    - Need transparency: A spreadsheet of capital improvements and their cost
- How do we move forward?
    - Waiting for Fr. Tim to come in as he is the head of the Parish
- Parking lot wall and fence needs to be redone or moved
    - Sight lines affected
    - Initial hearing postponed

            - Wall can only be 42” - may need to cut off corner piece and put wrought iron on top of that
            - Permits were believed to be obtained
            - If permits were not obtained and contractor still installed the wall, contractor would be liable
            - Archdiocese General Counsel, Jay Mercer, is looking at the issue
    - Amy Wilson leaving position as Principal on her own terms
- Young at Heart - Mary Anne Schaeffer
    - Memorial for the Unborn
        - Ministry of the Unborn and those we have miscarried and those we have lost
        - Would like a place to go and sit and thank God for what we have had and a place of comfort and peace
        - Would like to start in the Fall
        - Perhaps have Eagle Scouts do their projects for this ministry - possibly a place near the Grotto
        - Please pray for this ministry, especially with the Madonna with Child
    - Daughters of Mary
        - All women invited
        - Nine speakers this year
    - Crochet Group - 10 women
        - 170 prayer shawls
        - 75-80 Baptismal stoles
        - 45 lap blankets
        - Father asked if this group could take over making the Baptismal bibs that a parishioner, who has since passed, used to make
    - Please pray for Young at Heart Ministry

New Business

- Mayfest Success
    - $35,000 on the main raffle
    - $21,915 in sponsorships
    - Estimated over $55,000 in profit
    - Hopefully rundown will be in the bulletin a week from Sunday
    - Mayfest Committee follow-up meeting on Tuesday the 26th
    - In full compliance with Gaming license, thanks to Julie McGuire going above and beyond to make that happen. Thanks to the ladies in the white house who helped.
    - Julie McGuire is our point person for the gaming license - different events have different license requirements

- Parish Council Updates
    - Last meeting for Fr. Hunter and Amy Wilson
    - Paul Schmoll is stepping down as President of Parish Council - effective after this meeting
    - Danny Hayes will take over responsibilities of President

Closing Prayer

- Meeting ended at 8:34 P.M. with a prayer by Fr. Hunter