

St. George Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2021

6:30 pm, Church Hall

Attendees

- Clergy: Fr. Stephen Sledesky. Trustees: Margot Burkle, Bill White. Members: Elaine Carter, Susan Croce, Stephanie Deixler, Yolande Eldridge, Debra Falvey, Maureen Fuest, Harold Hutchinson, Joyce Ippolito, Jill Kennelly, Greer Koerner, Valerie LeShane, Carol McCormick. Visitor: Colleen Burkle.
- Absent: Beth Kozarec, Criona O'Brien. Peer Ministers: Matthew Celotto, Bobby Haig.

Welcome/Acceptance of April and May 2021 Minutes: Yolande opened the meeting, which had unofficially begun with a light potluck dinner to welcome our new members and say goodbye to Fr. Stephen and outgoing Council members. As this was our first meeting with the newly seated members, she asked everyone to introduce themselves. We went around the table, and each person said one thing about themselves. We welcomed our new members, Greer, Jill, Stephanie, Sue, and Carol.

Yolande next asked for approval of the April and May minutes. Both were accepted unanimously.

Pastor Report: Fr. Stephen gave the Pastor Report. He reminded that Council that the Council is not required by canon law; only the Finance Council is. Therefore, the new pastor may not wish to retain the Council in its current form. That will be up to Fr. Dillon. Fr. Stephen said that it would be helpful for Fr. Dillon, as our new pastor, to know the priorities of the parish, what would be useful to him in terms of moving things forward.

Yolande stated that we would go through with elections, but we have to keep in mind that things may change under Fr. Dillon. She described the duties of the president, which are to organize and run meetings. Valerie read the duties of the vice president and secretary from the bylaws. Carol nominated Yolande for president, and the Council voted to accept her unanimously. Joyce nominated Elaine for vice president, but Elaine declined the nomination. Greer then accepted the nomination, and she was elected unanimously. Finally, Carol volunteered to be the secretary; the votes to accept her were unanimous.

Yolande stated that Fran Wainer would be in touch with Council members to make sure all appropriate background checks are completed. Fr. Stephen stated that Fran oversees all office and custodial staff and helps the pastor with personnel. She has been doing the weekly bulletin, but that will change soon with the hiring of new office staff. There are two new part-time staff members: Sara Trotter and Justine Lovelace. Fr. Stephen said that Justine would be in the office in the afternoons in order to facilitate religious education classes. Returning the topic of what Fran would be contacting members about, Fr. Stephen informed that she would be in touch regarding virtus training and background checks, both meant to protect children and vulnerable adults in the parish. Council members were reminded to keep an eye out for inappropriate events and behavior.

Fr. Stephen further mentioned a few other projects in the parish, including installation of new security fixtures (lighting and cameras), repainting of the window frames and doors of the residence, and repair of a window that had been broken. He advised that generous donations have made it possible to have

money in reserve to keep our facilities in shape. Debra asked if cameras would be installed in every room, and Fr. Stephen advised that no, they would be in the parking lot, the candle room, and near entrances. A retired police officer is preparing the plan for these upgrades.

Fr. Stephen advised that his last day would be June 30, and Fr. Dillon would be doing all masses starting on Wednesday. Fr. Stephen said he has encouraged him to consider hiring a deacon to help with the workload; for now, Fr. Dillon will be saying all masses.

Close of meeting: The meeting closed with final farewells to Fr. Stephen and outgoing members of the Council (Joyce and Criona). Yolande presented Fr. Stephen with several gifts, and also gave gifts to Joyce and Criona. At that time the meeting broke up so that all could help clean up after our light supper.

Next meeting: TBD, after Yolande speaks with Fr. Dillon.