

Saint George's Parish Council Meeting Minutes January 26, 2025

Present: Father Dillon, Jody Fay, Fran Wainer, Debra Falvey, Betty Jane Schiller, Bob Keiser, Regina Beausejour, Maggie Bruno, Noreen Wolleben, Peter Perkins, George Goulet, Elizabeth Kozarec, Izzy Torello, Val Campanelli, Nancy Talalas and Enzo Taverna

Guests: Mana Hacker & Sheila Lee

Absent: Yolande Eldridge

The meeting began at 11:43 am with an opening prayer from Father Dillon.

Deb: The meeting was conducted by Deb, VP. The minutes were approved subject to some minor revisions.

Father Dillon: It was requested that the meetings be more concise and kept to an hour in length. Council Members are asked to pre-read the minutes prior to the meeting.

OCIA has eleven people. The meetings and events with the archbishop were well received. The archbishop said, "never be ashamed to be Catholic". There is a 7% increase in the archdiocese and at St. George's an increase of 10%. There are thirteen new seminarians. There are also many women discerning religious life.

Fran: We are now in the second half of CCD. Fran gave the Archbishop our church magnet and he gave Fran a magnet. The Welcoming Committee is refreshing its work. The columbarium is being built. There are 82 niches but a lot of them are doubles. Once filled up the columbarium will be expanded. It should be ready early or late spring. The brick program will be done early summer.

Enzo/Izzy (Youth Reps): January retreat just happened. The peer ministers are now working on the March 21st through 23rd retreat. There are not enough male peer ministers. They are using social media to try to reach younger people. There are usually 20 peer ministers on each retreat. 28 retreatants are going in March.

Deb: The parish chili dinner is on February 8, 2025. We need volunteers to help set up and tickets must be purchased in advance. The event will be a buffet style meal following the 4:30 mass. Peter and his team will be in the kitchen and will have servers. It was decided that we would not have a formal activity but just dinner and conversation about the book. Betty Jane organized the questions and will bring them to the dinner. Noreen sold twenty-one copies of the book thus far. Noreen, Nancy, Deb and Betty Jane volunteered to help with the event. Knights of Columbus has a fundraiser that night and the pancake breakfast is the next day.

George: 49 people went on the bus trip to radio city in December. The only snafu was the electronic tickets on cell phones. We just need to clarify this for the future.

New Ideas: Sheila is planning a retreat on September 27th at the parish from 9 am to 3 pm. Sister Lanny Jo is presenting. Breakfast and lunch are included, and tickets are \$25 each. There is a maximum of 100 people. Pre-registration is required, and the theme is TBD. Any leftover monies will go to the church. Volunteers are needed. Bob will be away until mid-March, but he is rebooting the bereavement program. It is a ten-week program using the archdiocese's New Day Program, held during the day.

Parishioners only may attend. Betty Jane brought up Olivia's Cupcakes which shut down due to covid. Betty Jane is going to follow up to see if we can revamp the program. Fran brought up Crosswords for Christ and Maria is part of that program. Deb circulated a sympathy card for Yolande for all to sign.

Closing prayer by Father at 12:26 pm

Our Next Meeting is February 23rd, 2025, after the 10:30 am mass.