

Church of St. Mary

Minutes May 2018

- I. Opening Prayer was led by Laura Burgess.
- II. Quorum (yes) Attendance: Sandy Franco; Terry Thompson, Fr. Paul Boudreau; Deacon Dana Garry; Tonianne Bankosi, Laura Burgess; David Berthiaume; Janet Nocek; Sue Ferraiolo; Caroline Thompson; Brian Wallace; Anna Foreman; Monique Madden(arrived later)
- III. Minutes approved with one change. Brian Wallace, Terry Thomson
- IV. Old Business
 - a) Anna showed the welcome packet for parishioners that is under development. She invited us to review it and to provide feedback.
 - b) Pictures of Parish Council members- discussion was tabled. Some need to have their pictures taken.
 - c) Rivereast submissions- Anna commented on this; we need to have more submissions to the local paper as other churches do.
 - d) Vote on Changing the Bylaws to allow teen member to have voting privileges. After discussion The vote was unanimous: All seated members of the Council will have a vote. (The vote took place after the reports, when Monique Madden arrived) Confirmation is not required to serve on the Council. Parental permission may be required to allow minors' names to be noted in the minutes.
- V. Finance – we continue to wait for a report. An expected meeting with the Diocesan staff is expected to help.
- VI. Committee Updates
- VII. A) Faith Formation – Sue Farraiolo reported that 40 will be confirmed, ON 5-19; 21 will make their First Communion; the May crowning will take place on 5-20.

The online program for 6th and 7th grades was completed. Escape rooms related to their online learning.

Two intergenerational programs with grades 1 through 5. Children's liturgy ends in June. Although there is always a need, Sue reported that a good number of volunteers are supporting the youth program. Class sizes were discussed. Small numbers are occurring in the early grades.

b) Ladies Guild. New offices will be elected. Membership is growing and more active. The guild has had two successful fairs since the Fall.

c) Youth Group. Caroline Thompson and Sandy Franco reported: Attendance Numbers during activities are not as high as in previous years. Sue offered assistance to attract 6th and 7th graders, to build the program. Solutions such as changing the schedule of mass were discussed.

d) Website: Laura Burgess reported the live streaming capability is available, discussed how to overcome technical challenges; There is an interest in Podcasting that would be easier than making videos. St. Mary Facebook page can be linked on the website.

e) Rectory – Brian Wallace reported on a plan to inspect the building and develop a 5-year plan. This fall a knight qualified in building will look at the needs.

f) Liturgical – no representation as Marilyn McGrath could not attend

VII. Sandy will send out e-mails....

b) A discussion regarding the need for replacement of the Church Pews; The council looked at a brochure to be sent with the Parish Bulletin on the need for replacement of the failing pews to address safety concerns and liability issues; the solution that is available is due to a generous anonymous donor who will fund half the cost of good quality pews. The current pews have failing glue joints and many parishioners have expressed they would like to see the current pews replaced that are not designed well for this church. True curved pews made of quality wood would serve the parish for many years. Also discussed was the unfortunate situation that the flooring is not the correct material and it would be prudent to replace the floor when the pews are replaced. The installers noted that without replacing the flooring, there will be continuing flooring problems and difficulty in installation of new pews. Father Paul is contacting flooring installers to get more information. The council asked some questions on behalf of parishioners. These were answered by Fr. Paul. Many things have been suggested and tried. With the uneven floors, we cannot have chairs brought in to take the place of the pews.

VIII. No open discussion.

VIII. Closing Prayer was led by Tonianne Bankoski

Adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Nocek