

Church of St Patrick
Parish Council
MINUTES: March 10, 2022

Members Present: Fr Kuss, Liz Gerlach, Terry Kapsen, Roseanne Strand, Lisa Romain, Allison Schmidt, Liesel Gutierrez, Mike Weibel

Members Present via Zoom: Bill Schnobrich, James Swanke, John Ratelle

Members not present: Tom Beutell, Grace Hansen

7:00 pm Call to order, with prayer: Fr Kuss

February 17 Meeting's Minutes Approved

Social Outreach Discussion

WHY we choose/ WHAT evolves

Liesel- People want to feel welcome. Donuts and coffee important. She has heard that people do feel welcome here- want information on activities in Parish. Perhaps have a bulletin board posting information and navigation of Parish. Events offered for all age groups are very important. Make volunteer opportunities clear.

Mike- Greeters and Ushers are appreciated. Donuts encourage lingering after service. Bingo event had a nice diversity of ages. Fr Kuss is good at making families with young children feel welcome at Mass. Heard good comments on Paul and the music.

Allison- Have kids volunteer at events. Name tags would be a good idea. Move to the chapel for evening Mass- have kid bags there. Make it more clear that Totus Tuus is a version of VBS.

Roseanne- Focus on St Patrick's- prepare it well for outreach in the community. We need to reengage people after COVID. She presented a long list of ideas from a circle of acquaintances that St Patricks could do to reach out to parishioners and non-parishioners. She also suggested focusing on teens, helping foster and single parents, and hosting a prayer night with parents and their children.

John Ratelle- Regarding the Men's Club: They could help with chores like cleaning windows and trimming trees, or start a Men's Choir. He says they need to find leadership. He suggested setting up a coffee shop in the Celtic Center. It could be a good place for High School students as well.

Terry- We need to reinvestigate our connection with Coban. There have been many changes there. Lisa mentioned that it's encouraging to donate money overseas when you can trust that the money is put to good use. Our partnership with them needs to be looked at again.

James- Bingo Night and the soup dinner after Stations of the Cross were enjoyed by those who participated. He recommended education programs for youth and adults.

Bill- Leadership is an issue. The same few people are doing all the work. We need to attract new help.

Liz G - She mentioned a study with an expert on how COVID affected attendance. What has changed? What is needed? We need to rebuild.

Fr Kuss- It's a good idea to do charitable work *through* St Patrick's. The *community* aspect of it is very healthy. We need to actively make new connections with parishioners. Reach out to new people- not always in your same group.

Liz G thanked the council for the discussion of the many *needs* were presented. In order to move forward in *outreach*, which ones do we need to address, and take the next step. A small group will address and present at the next Parish Council Meeting, April 21, 2022

Upcoming Events

- St Patrick's Brunch Celebration, March 13
- Lenten Friday Fish Fry, April 1
- Adult Faith Formation Speaker, March 27

8:00 pm Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Romain