

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH**

**Leading People to Jesus Through Worship, Community, Service and Devotion to Mary**

Immaculate Conception Parish Council Meeting

May 12, 2021

MaryAnn Grossman called the Parish Council meeting to order at 7:35pm; Janet Wilks led the members in an opening prayer.

Attendees: Frank Copeland, Dan Costello, Nathan DeDino, Cathy Demidovich, MaryAnn Grossman, Father Matt Hoover, Alison King, Beth Mahler, Bobbie Mitch, and Janet Wilks were in attendance.

*Father Streitenberger Talk*

MaryAnn led the group in a discussion about Father Streitenberger’s “Real Presence, Real Future” talk. Twelve people responded to the request for feedback, and the feedback encompassed wide array of opinions. Dan Costello shared that he felt Father Streitenberger had laid out a concrete action plan.

Father Matt expressed his opinion that it was very good that the parish was engaging in these types of discussions around evangelization. He mentioned that dioceses across the United States are also engaging in evangelization initiatives. The parish received back the Disciple Maker Index results and will be considering how to share the results most effectively in the coming months.

Council members discussed the meaning of community in the parish. Cathy Demidovich relayed some of her commission’s discussion about this topic. Community involves multiple facets including the Mass, the school, festival, the fish fry and spaghetti dinners, etc. Council members discussed how to reimagine and grow the Immaculate Conception community. Consideration was given for how to further integrate families who send their children to the school while also engaging on equal footing parishioners who do not have children at the school.

*Vacation Bible School*

Beth Mahler shared with council members her research about Vacation Bible School (VBS) and the feasibility of holding VBS at Immaculate Conception this summer. Most area parishes are not doing a VBS this summer. Immaculate Conception also is lacking sufficient volunteers at the present time for a weeklong VBS this summer. Moreover, in years past, planning has begun in February to allow sufficient preparation time. Council members discussed the feasibility of holding a VBS this summer and the group came to consensus that there are neither enough volunteers nor enough preparation time to create a positive VBS experience. Alison King made a motion to postpone VBS to next year; Frank Copeland seconded the motion. Council members voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Council members asked the Faith Formation and Community Life commissions to consider other family events that could successfully be implemented during the summer of 2021 in place of VBS.

*Medical Ethics Conference*

Discussion of the recent conference on medical ethics was postponed to the June meeting due to time constraints.

*Parish Council Membership for the 2021-22 Year*

MaryAnn led a discussion about membership for the 2021-22 year. The following nominees were presented to the council:

**Faith Formation**

Lisa Galden

Beth Mahler

Janet Wilks

**Community Life**

Alison King

Sarah Moore

Mary Margaret Schultheis

**Social Concerns**

Frank Copeland

Dan Costello

Jim Emley

Janet made a motion to approve the slate of candidates; Dan seconded the motion. Council members voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Janet then made a motion that Dan serve as the Vice President for the 2021-22 year; Alison seconded the motion. Council members voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

There is still a need for a Secretary for 2021-22, and all are asked to consider serving in this role.

*Closing and Next Meeting*

The meeting adjourned at 8:49pm. The final parish commissions and council meetings of the year will be June 9 in Marian Hall. All parishioners are welcome to attend the commissions meeting at 6:30pm.

*Meeting minutes drafted and submitted by Nathan DeDino, Parish Council Secretary.*