

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH**

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

**Immaculate Conception Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**

**November 8, 2023**

Lisa Galden called the Parish Council meeting to order at 7:30pm; Jim Emley led the members in an opening prayer.

Attendees: Fr. Matt Hoover, Principal Colleen Kent, Lisa Galden, Rich Viertel, Jim Emley, Paula Mong, Kendra Girardot, Janet Wilks, and Julie Clemens.

Not present: Sarah Berlin Moore and Deacon Chris Campbell.

***Parish Council Vice President and Secretary Roles***

Lisa announced the Vice President and Secretary roles have been filled. She welcomed Rich Viertel to the role of Vice President and Julie Clemens to the role of Secretary.

Introductions were made by each member. Fr. Matt finished the introductions by suggesting Council members think more about how to welcome and involve new parishioners in the IC community.

Lisa stated that two open positions remain, one on the Social Concerns Commission and another on the Parish and Community Life Commission.

***Foster Care Support Ministry***

Lisa opened the floor to Council members’ comments or questions about Stephanie Baird’s proposal for a Foster Care Support Ministry given during the October 11th meeting.

Members expressed questions and opinions on what the Foster Care Support ministry would do. The issue of what type of special training might be needed to work with foster children was raised and it was suggested that Springs of Love could share how they vet/prepare volunteers for work with foster families. Ideas were shared for possible events and projects. Next steps for the ministry would include identifying leadership, defining the mission with a clear, succinct definition of what type of support will be provided, and two feasible projects chosen as a start with specifications on how to make them happen—i.e., with vetting from the appropriate Parish Commission and, when applicable, with linking to existing resources/groups (Women’s Club, St. Vincent’s de Paul, etc.). Once those steps are completed, kickoff timeframe could occur during Foster Care Awareness Month in May.

Lisa made a motion to move forward with the Foster Care Support Ministry.Janet seconded the motion. The motion to move forward with the project received unanimous approval.

Lisa and Jim agreed to meet with Stephanie to share information on the Council’s discussion.

***Giving Tuesday – Springs of Love***

Lisa reported that Springs of Love received the most votes and read an email from Kimberly Henkel (Co-Founder of Springs of Love). Council members were reminded that Giving Tuesday is a “response of charity” to counter-balance Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

Lisa asked for members’ comments on selecting Springs of Love as IC’s Giving Tuesday charity for 2023. Janet spoke in support of it and made a motion to accept it as IC’s charity. Jim seconded the motion. Council members voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

***Proposed Time Change of Parish Council Meeting***

Lisa announced a request had been made for future Parish Pastoral Council meetings to begin at 7:15 pm, instead of 7:30, and to end respectfully by 8:30 pm. She opened the floor for comments or questions.

Members agreed it is good to make an ending time of 8:30 a goal and to strive to reach it. An inquiry was made about whether it would be possible to have Commission meetings end at 7:15. A member explained that Commission meetings could run as late as needed but Council members could leave at 7:15. Some members agreed they were willing to stay later than 8:30, on evenings when there is a full agenda and/or rich conversations.

Jim made a motion to leave the Council times as is, with start time at 7:30, adjournment time at 8:30, and allowing for extra time occasionally when it is necessary. Janet seconded the motion. The motion to leave the Council meeting time as it is received unanimous approval.

Fr. Matt reminded Council members of the importance of limiting discussions to only items on the agenda. Lisa added that the process is: (1) Commissions, (2) Executive Meeting, and (3) Parish Council.

***Pizza Party***

Discussion of the pizza party was postponed until the January meeting due to time constraints.

***Upcoming Events: 100th Anniversary of the School***

Lisa asked whether anything is upcoming for the 100th anniversary. Colleen replied there is currently nothing to discuss about the anniversary.

***Closing and Next Meeting***

Lisa motioned to call the Council meeting to a close and suggested the remaining agenda items (New Parishioner Welcome Gatherings and Three Commissions’ Reports) be postponed until a future meeting. Janet seconded the motion and received unanimous approval from the members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47pm. There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be on January 10, 2024.

*Meeting minutes drafted and submitted by Julie Clemens, Parish Council Secretary.*