**Newman Hall HSP**

**Parish Council Meeting Minutes September 17, 2019; 7:30PM**

**Attendees**

Fr Ivan Tou, Amanda Wehrman, Bob Gannon, Brandon Azali, Frank Rockwood, Jimmy O’Dea, Jimmy Chim, Linda Safarik-Tong, Walt Lindquist, Youali Ramirez, Ned Niccolls

**Opening Prayer:** Jimmy O’Dea

**Opening Business and PC Management**

1. **Minutes:** (Amanda) Briefly discussed the minutes for the new PC members; accepted previous minutes. (Items 1 and 2 were done after the Introductions noted in item 3; see more below)
2. **Action Log:** (Father Ivan, Amanda, Walt) Noted the high value of the action log. Log is provided separately. Currently no actions are overdue, but three of the four are due September 30.
3. **New Business**
   1. Introductions—brief “histories” of members
      1. Father Ivan: grew up in Florida, was at MIT and UCLA, liked computer science but there was already a computer science major in the family so “the family needed a manager type” and he became double major; loved the Church, heard the calling; at Newman for five years, likes musicals.
      2. Amanda: started at Cal as an English Major, loved Newman, went back East for Law School, returned to Bay Area and has been working for a company addressing homeless needs for 8 yrs, has husband and two cats.
      3. Bob Gannon: graduated at GST, was a Jesuit for 12 years, then decided to go into teaching especially physics and science. Now retired two years, never have been so busy. Really humbled by all the people working on the picnic.
      4. Frank Rockwood: grew up in Gainesville Fl; went to Berkeley Haas school in 1991, was married in St. Joseph, have two girls. They own their own company which develops senior communities.
      5. Jimmy Chim: Graduated 2011 from Haas Business School; working in a tech company. Found NH as a spiritual home. Met Youali when he noticed she had the Ash Wednesday symbol on her forehead. (Winner of the minutes-taker sweetest moment award).
      6. Jimmy O’Dea; Works for Concerned Scientists. Originally was from Las Vegas, then to Santa Barbara, then to Berkeley.
      7. Linda Safarik-Tong: Came to Davis and stayed in California. Went to Mary Magdalene for 25 years, then found Newman as being so vibrant. Married with two kids. Fr. Al was a patient of hers.
      8. Ned Niccolls: Married to Yvette, two “kids” and three grandchildren. Metallurgical engineer. Went to mass with Yvette for 40+ years as non-Catholic, then baptized by Fr Ivan and became a (formal) Catholic 4 years ago.
      9. Walt Lindquist: Was an engineer, did a Silicon valley start up-- which was an experience. Came to Newman in 1988. Loves the students, and the feel of Newman. Walt is also on the Finance Committee (gave that perspective later in the meeting).
      10. Youali Rameriz: An English major, then taught 2nd grade. She Jimmy Chim were married at Newman. She is now back at teaching.
      11. Brandon Azali: A student, Brandon came to Newman four years ago and became increasingly involved in the community as he had (has) multiple roles in the Student Ministry team.
   2. Reviewed the minutes, were approved
   3. Reviewed the Action Log
      1. Fr Steven will be involved with liturgical ministers training
      2. Staff meeting re: consider liturgy committee to improve coordination and maintain quality
      3. Staff and manager job descriptions—work in progress
      4. Sort key inventory, establish process for key holders
   4. Debrief of Tilden Mass and Picnic work in progress
      1. Walt—resounding success; comfortable environment that enabled people talk.
      2. Jimmy Chim—very well organized; at this event people were happy to stick around; an unusual opportunity. Are there other ways to create that sort of space?
      3. Amanda—really heartening to see how the community stepped up.
      4. Ned—great chance to talk and get to know people in more depth. Impressive to see the outpouring of support from the ministries and community.
      5. Bob—Seconded the idea of creating other opportunities for “people to do something together”. Bob asked for feedback.
      6. Jimmy O’Dea—really amazed that it was organized in five weeks!
      7. Fr Ivan—noted that 80 people came to the 10AM mass, so important to do that in the future
   5. Fr Ivan’s Update:
      1. Parish Mission Statement—The Parish Council can help facilitate a parish review of the mission statement.
      2. Priorities: (Parish Council members are the “ears in the pews” to represent different aspects of the community)
         1. Be a more welcoming community
            1. Father Steven has ideas to boost hospitality
            2. Refugees will be on hiatus because the refugee flow has been cut back; But we may have opportunities for undocumented students
         2. Deepening Faith
         3. Financial Stability
            1. Each year the $ is going up even though our member numbers are going down—see Financial summary.
            2. Plan is to pay our assessment this year.
            3. Newman has a source of grants from Florida, but do not want to draw upon that too much; the Valley Project has also given grants in the past.
            4. Focus cost will be $30,000 this year versus $60,000 last year.
            5. Finance committee is lean on people, need to beef it up; 2020 will be a rebuilding year. In the recent past the Finance Committee met a few times a year; the committee may need to meet more. Bob noted that we need a Marketing plan to generate $, as well as interest in what Newman has to offer. Walt points out that we are basically in good shape due to savings. Fr Ivan notes that we are aiming to have neutral cash flow. Currently looking at negative $30,000. Newman is strong relative to other churches: Newman has about 1000 people coming, whereas most Berkeley churches have weekly attendance of about 300. Jimmy asked for clarification of the roles of Parish Council versus Finance: Finance are the caretakers with the task to ensure that Newman is financially sound; whereas the PC is strategic.
            6. Model of Parish/Pastoral: Need PC to help determine how the parish can be a vibrant, growing, dynamic parish.
            7. Please read the ground rules, we can discuss them at the next meeting
            8. **Next meeting: October 8 at 7:30PM**

**Closing Prayer** (Fr Ivan)