

Minutes for Newman Parish Council Meeting
December 13, 2022

Attending: Father Ivan, Bob Gannon, Ned Niccolls, Linda Safarik-Tong. Marie Rethford, Homer Teng joined after choir practice at 8:30. We met in the rectory where it was warm.

7:40 Father Ivan opened the meeting with a prayer.

7:45 November minutes were adopted with changes Father Ivan requested.

7:45 Ned updated us regarding the Racial Justice effort. He and Alan Roselius plan to lead a JustFaith module on Racial Equity (it is the first of a series of 3 programs offered by JustFaith). The opening retreat is scheduled for Jan 21. Ned provided a blurb for recruiting people to join the program.

7:55 Pastor's Update: New roof and solar panels – getting additional quotes. Roof must be replaced before putting on solar panels. First estimate is \$100K for roof. There are 2 benefactors that will cover most of the cost of the solar panels. Father Ivan is also looking into an electrical outlet for the foyer area (near stairway). Bob had much insight into wiring, conduit, potential fire hazards etc. It was determined that one outlet will be sufficient and that it's prudent to run it from the circuit breaker panel.

Father Ivan will meet with the Bishop regarding the ongoing MAP process.

Now that the dirt has been removed from the planters, some people involved wonder if removing all or some of the planters makes sense for the patio area's functionality. The planters seem to be problematic and require sealing every 10 years or so. Bob suggested a compromise in removing SOME of the planters and keeping some. Ned mentioned that this would be a good time to inspect the drainage system and make sure it's functioning properly. It was decided that Father Ivan will ask 2 parish architects, independently, for their ideas/input. From there, ideas/proposals will/may be presented to the parish at large.

Father Ivan asked the PC what we thought about starting a Paulist Associates group at Newman. It was decided that, at this point, it's more important to emphasize that Newman is a Paulist parish. Many parishioners don't know that Newman is Paulist or who the Paulist's are. Once this is more firmly rooted, perhaps the parish would be ready to have a Paulist Associates organization form.

Loaves and Fishes: currently there is no real governing body or guidelines in place for how to operate this ministry. Marie suggested that all ministries in the past had binders with information about how to do the ministry. Father Ivan is concerned about accountability to the parish, which funds this effort. He has wanted to form a board, but this has proved difficult. It was suggested that 2-3 current, active volunteers in this ministry could form a leadership team and create a binder with guidelines, supply purchasing rules, and some statistics about number of folks served, number of meals, etc.

9:00 pm We ended with a quick discussion (having run out of time) about how to build community and activities offered. Father Ivan stated that lectures don't build community, but small group programs do build community. There was no time to plan a January parish event. The idea of a parish wide retreat came up again. This will be first item on the agenda at our next meeting on January 3, 2023

9:15 pm Marie closed us in prayer.