

## Parish Council Minutes - Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church

### April 10, 2025 – 7 PM

Present: Father Perez, Keith Robinson, Kathleen Murphy, Eleanor Ames, Sharon Booker, Katy Modersohn, Rose Ann Smythe, Susan King, Burrous Snellings, David Wittich, Frank Pandolfo.

Father led us in an opening prayer.

The February minutes were reviewed and approved with the correction Council is to meet every 2 months instead of quarterly and to remove Bob Nashed from the paragraph in regards to ongoing projects.

**Purpose of Parish Council** – Keith Robinson presented thoughts on the purpose of our Parish Council which is to serve in a communication and advisory capacity to the church pastor. There was a lengthy discussion about Council member roles. Kathleen Murphy requested we set up a committee to follow up with some guidelines for what Council should be moving forward so it is clear to everyone in the parish.

**Finance Report:** Current balances in our accounts. Finance committee will be meeting on May 1 at 10 AM.

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| • Checking Account: \$44,038.31              | These dedicated amounts are currently    |
| • DIAL Operating: \$1,078,342.76             | included in the parish checking account: |
| • DIAL Building Fund: \$87,927.84            | Filipino Shrine: \$24,920.22             |
| • DIAL Extra Ordinary Dividend: \$141,504.09 | Ladies Guild: \$4,059.24                 |
|  | Actual Balance: \$13,593.85              |

#### Old Business

- **Listening Sessions Follow Up** – Kathy Murphy reported on the Listening Sessions meeting in February. Since then, Father has submitted all the paperwork to the Deanery for initial review, and then on to the Diocese Office of Planning, Construction and Facilities
- **Financial Information to Parish** – It was suggested we provide this more than once a year. The Finance Committee will discuss this and make the decision with Father Perez.
- **Pancake Dinner/ Shrove Tuesday**– Dave Wittich reported it was a success with 33 people attending. St. Patrick Day; 47 people attend the event. April 6 Parish Feast Day; approximately 53 people attended. Lenten Soup Suppers have had good attendance as well.
- **Meet & Greet Evening Dinner** will be held on May 16. With guest speaker, Ray Selg a KOC investment financial planner. This will be open to all parish members. They are looking for someone to provide child care during the event. Burrous has been talking to manager at Walmart in regards of KOVAR fundraiser and their Fill the Crib drive. They feel it could get a better return by holding it there. He will report back on decision.
- **Parish Work Day** will be Saturday, April 12 if weather permits. (Note: Now May 3)
- **BLA** - We have exceeded our goal for a total of \$15,210. We had 56 pledges which is 32% of parish.
- **Annex Window Treatment Replacements.** Eleanor, Irene and Rose Ann will meet with a representative of Budget Blinds of Harrisonburg on April 14 to discuss options and come up with a decision for new window coverings.

## On Going Project Updates

- **New Construction Project** – Father submitted Phase 1 of the Primary Approval Process to the Office of Planning, Construction, and Facilities. He has since heard back from the Diocese with a request for a letter to the bishop. Father is currently working with Ward Jones, COO of Arlington Diocese, to draft the letter requested to the bishop this week.

## New Business

- Any agenda items for future meetings should be sent to Irene Sommers.
- It was requested a notice be included in the church bulletin and Fr. include it in Sunday announcements, mentioning how communion is distributed so our visitors are aware of it and have less confusion.
- In the future, we should list all groups on the Parish Council agenda if they have a report to give.
- Katie Modersohn stated there is youth group meeting on the second and fourth Wednesdays. Music rehearsals happen every Monday for choir some Mondays for men's Schola, and most Friday mornings for handbells. Currently there are 15 participants.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with a prayer.

Next meeting is June 12 at 7 PM.

Eleanor Ames, Secretary