

**St. Thomas Aquinas, Indianapolis
Parish Council April 5, 2022, Meeting
Minutes**

Approved June 7 2022

Agenda

- *Opening Prayer: Matt Hayes*
- *Roll Call*
 - Those present: Janine Bercovitz, Fred Chandler, Matt Hayes, Jackson Herrera, Rocky Marsh, Karen Momper, Tim Nation, Jose Samperio, Charles Williams, Fr. Varghese, Karla Hudecek
 - Those absent: Kate Erdel, Grace DeMoss, Noah DeMoss, Geoff Ziegler
 - Guests: Evelyn Ridley-Turner (representing Finance Committee)
- *Approval of minutes from February 8, 2022, Meeting*
 - Unanimously approved by the council
- *Comments by Pastor*
 - Father spoke briefly about a feasibility study for a campaign by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis
- *Pillar Chair Reports*
 - Tim Nation: Dialogue, Truth, and Faith
 - Report forced on Race and Cultural Relations 2/22/22 meeting (See separate document, available through the parish office)
 - Rocky Marsh: Community Service
Via separate document (available through the parish office): Boulevard Place Food Pantry, SVdP “Love Your Neighbor” race, and SVdP Regional upcoming Regional Conference, Bereavement Committee, Haiti Committee, Creation Care Committee, MLK Peace Garden Community Clean-up, and Vacation Bible School (June 20-24) (See separate document, available through the parish office.)
 - Fred Chandler: Spiritual Growth
Via separate document (available through the parish office): an overview of various programs underway.
 - Geoff Ziegler: Stewardship
Via separate document (available through the parish office):
 - continuing work on the effective use of Narthex monitor
 - Beginning communication for STA SaugageFest and Gala
 - Possibility of restarting “welcoming breakfasts” for new members
 - Panning to integrate Stewardship Committee with the New Foundations fundraising project.
- *Finance Committee*
 - Fiscal year 2021-22 giving is 1.32% lower than 2020-2021 – as of February 28, 2022.
 - Finance committee approved tuition and teacher salary raises, as well as robotics fundraising request.
 - Father and Nancy will need to make final call on whether to hire assistant principal through 2022-2023 budget – once this decision is made finance committee will be able to vote to approve entire school budget, which opens up path for finalization of parish budget in late April/early May
- Chris Durnil: Buildings and Grounds

Via Email by Chris:

- Campus Master Plan (New Foundations Project) will select review and select an architect firm to articulate a plan that will be used for fundraising.
- Because of Retirement, the maintenance position will be opened in June. A committee has been put in place to review applicants and make a recommendation to Fr. Varghese.

- Kate Erdel: School Commission

Via Email by Kate:

- Working with Finance Committee to finalize FY 23 School Budget, with a 5% tuition increase and a 3% increase in teacher salaries
- A request to add the position of Assailant Principal was put on hold until FY 2023 but additional stipend money will be available for some teachers to take on limited administrative duties.

- *Old Business*

The By-Laws (Article IV) concerning the process of appointing and the term of office for parish council leaders – approved at the February 8 meetings – were adopted by unanimous consent.

- *New Business*

- Jeff Stickel (Bishop Chatard Board of Regents,) gave an update on STA Graduates at Bishop Chatard High School.
- Parish Council Elections
Karen Momper, Election Committee Chair reported that only one (excellent) candidate surfaced (Patrick Price) for the at-large open seat. It was unanimously decided to ask him to accept the position and have this choice affirmed by acclamation at weekend liturgies before June 7 when he will begin serving.
- STA Parish Council Planning Retreat
Will take place September 10 from 9:00am to 3:00pm in the Bethany Room, facilitated by Susan Weber (staff at the Center for Congregations). Rocky Marsh and Jose Samperio agreed to serve on an ad-hoc committee to work with Susan to plan the day.

- *Ending Prayer: Fr. Varghese*
- Next Meeting: June 7, 2022, at 7:00 pm