

**SPIRITUS CHRISTI PARISH COMMUNITY FORUM**  
**October 15, 2023**  
***Minutes***

**Meeting Start Time:** 10:50 am

**Opening Prayer - Mass**

**Introduction of Staff -**

**Staff Present:**, Rev. Myra, Mike Ramich, Fr. Jim, Rev Celie, Mark Bennett, Aaron Lynch, Mike Boucher, Ruth Cowing, Eileen Hurley

**Meeting Overview, Framework - Kim Potter**

**Numbers attending:** on 121 zoom, 121 live = total

**Pastor's Report**

- Rev Myra doing presentation
- History of Spiritus from 1998 to now
- Roaming Catholics
- Stabilize outreaches
- Grow community
- Interfaith relation commitment
- Timeline
  - Salem 99-2003
  - DUPC 2021 lost permanent pastor decreases of endowment fund and renters
  - Things started changing
  - Not able to access spaces we could before
- 2022 Hochstein shut for 3 months
  - Storage issues
  - Lost live stream
  - People fell
  - Not our space
- 25th year of roaming Catholics
  - Good time to look at change of church model
- Benefits
  - Grow outreaches

- Didn't have to be responsible for resources and major repairs
- Cons
  - Higher percentage of rent because we are to largest people left
  - No control of spaces
  - Need more options for funerals
  - No long term security
  - No community
  - Growing needs space to expand
  - Parking 25-30 parking spaces
  - Can't guarantee funeral times or reception space
  - Rel Ed in a different building
  - No place to grow
- Take vote all parish in a few weeks
- Mike Ramich
- Financial reasons
  - Mike Ramich
  - Spent over \$3 mil on rent at DUPC and Hochstein
  - Not mad at landlords but we have no equity
  - Can't do much subject to what landlord tells you what you can and can't do
  - We will have costs but we can make decisions
  - DOPC going to renovation Celebration hall
  - Asked if we could make contribution to renovation cost
  - We don't get to use much
  - REnt DUPC rent increase 8%
  - Rent Hochstein increase 5% for lease until Feb then see where we are based on vote
  - Do we want to

#### Questions

- Pros and cons i only herald the cons
- We have a space that someone else is responsible liability if someone fell
- So easy to say we are at the Hochstein
- Was our growth because of roaming model
- Are we going to have the information
- Musicians have an important role it is complicated to move the equipment a con to Hochstein

#### Answer

- Discussed benefits of renting will have in packet for you to review before the vote

- Growth comes from internet presence
- Growth after 2020 protest for justice
- Tend to find us because of commitment to outreach
- Musicians would love to have a place to have our own

Question

- Financial interested in i don't understand what portion of the money we take in that would be moved towards buying this place

Answer

- We don't want to put financials on internet and we are live stream but it will be in the packet

Questions

- Do we have a bottom line of what we can spend as the last one fell apart based on how much it would cost

Answer

- If we vote positive we will have a committee that will look together what we need but won't do if we don't vote no waste time

Question

- If we thought it was small we have a big online presence could we rent Hochstein for Christmas
- Can we get a place where all the music would be able to be balance

Answer

- In Terms of space what is big enough we haven't had more then 300 on a sunday over 200 online members in addition to people who haven't come back and watch from home
- Musicians can get the sound right and doesn't have to be different from Sunday to Sunday

Question

- Online Question
- Can we defined inner city

Answer

- WE have always been a parish defined by inner city
- To have a neighborhood
- To not abandon the city
- Be a parish in the inner city

Question

- How much spent on rent

Answer

- We spent \$3 mil on rent that we won't get back

Question

- Will having bricks and mortar enhance or take away from outreaches

Answer

- It is hard to dream about new ways to connect with community
- Rev Myra was calling in the day after protest when we brought in the protest they told her not to do that again
- It would enhance the space

Question

- The church we are working with and breaking that commitment and their lost of finances when they need it
- Could we do a partnership based so we have more say and developing the community

Answer

- We offered to buy DUPC they said no
- They have gone to a strong business model

Question

- Any discussion with the city what opportunities to move into buildings in the city

Answer

- Rev Myra had preliminary discussion with Mayor
- Didn't want to get ahead of community
- At PCF there is a push and pull
- Hope to take a vote to align ourselves together to be then able to fully dream

Question

- The vote is not for a specific property

Answer

- WE felt we muddled with Child street so back stepped to see if we want to buy or lease
- We will create a process based on every structure
- If the vote is yes there may be places that we won't even bring to you that are not appropriate to hold us
- If there are properties we will put in front of you

Question

- Speak about change and change in the modern church

Answer

- WE are not the same church that we were 25 yrs ago
- We are post COVID church
- We didn't welcome migrants
- Music changed
- What is GOD asking us in this moment

Question

- WE have been paying rent we could also charge rent to other churches starting up

Answer

- We could do this and were approached by a small congregation to t

Question

- When will vote take place

Answer

- We want to make sure that everyone has the information
- It is in our bylaws that we have to have 2 PCF and give time to disseminate the information so everyone has a chance to evaluate the vote

MOTION

PCF Chairperson - John O’Gorman

We are voting to have the full Parish Vote

Leaders and facilitators are not able to give the motion

Kathleen Tranelli gave the motion as amended -

**“To have this group vote to move forward with an All Parish Vote to move from a leasing model to a ownership model for a building or property in an inner city neighborhood”**

.

**Closing Prayer -**

**Meeting End Time:** 11:30am

**Meeting Facilitators:** Kim Winden

**Notetakers:** Bridget Casselman

**Parish Community Forum Facilitators:**

Trevor Carney

Colleen Farley

Matt Liston

John O’Gorman

Kim Winden

Dave Winden