

St. Peter Parish Council (SPPC) Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2026

Attendance: Father Joe, Father Marty, Michael O'Brien, Vicki Bogdan, Mary Todzia, Jane Alaimo, Mike Farina, Skip Paul, Mary Beth Iacobelli, Melissa Carlson, Carmelo Rosa, Ken Vallera, Ralph Rand, Chase Mack, Chris Miller, Joan Veit, Marion Enie

Opening

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. Father Joe offered the opening prayer.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Mary Beth Iacobelli made the motion to accept the February minutes, seconded by Mary Todzia.

Old Business & Recent Events

The Parish By-Laws were reviewed. Fr. Joe detailed that the Diocesan guidelines must be addressed in the revisions. Melissa Carlson asked Fr. Joe to please highlight any areas in the revised By-Laws that may not comply with the guidelines. The By-Laws subcommittee will meet with Fr. Joe to review any further additions and or revisions.

The Mardi Gras celebration, an important annual Parish tradition, was well attended.

Security update Ken Vallera reported that all security cameras have been installed. To maximize building security, the security door process for the Church Hall is being updated. Only assigned parishioners will have an individualized security code for the door. The assigned individuals must document their commitment not to share the code. All lights have been replaced and are on timers, except for the Eversource light, which comes on at dusk.

Children are still not being escorted by an adult, especially when using the bathrooms during Mass. In addition to the Bulletin announcements, lectors will make the announcements before all Masses over the next month.

Mary Beth Iacobelli asked about the status of removing the Exit sign that leads to a locked door to the Rectory, which needs to be covered or removed. Ken Vallera reported that the Fire Marshal has reviewed the Exit sign status and determined it can be removed.

New Business & Upcoming Events

Easter Triduum will be at St Peter. St Lawrence parishioners will need to attend Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil services at St Peter.

Stations of the Cross Ministries to lead per the following schedule.

- 3/6 The Knights of Columbus
- 3/13 The Sisters
- 3/20 Ladies Guild
- 3/27 Faith Formation

Note moving forward. No Church Hall activities should be scheduled on Fridays during Lent

The first announcement of At-Large SPPC nominations will be in the Bulletin on March 8. Fr Joe has asked for a few revisions to the second announcement scheduled for March 22. Mike O'Brien to provide edits to include in the Bulletin. Mary Beth Iacobelli noted that at least 3 At Large members are required. The decision on a Nomination Committee is pending a response to nominations. Melissa Carlson questioned whether nominations should proceed since the By-Laws are under revision. Mike O'Brien confirmed that the 2013 version of the By-Laws is in effect until the revised By-Laws are approved.

The living Rosary is scheduled for March 16 at 6:30 PM. Father Marty will lead. A flyer has been posted to Facebook. A Living Rosary will also be scheduled for May 18th at 6:30.

Mary Beth Iacobelli shared the final Application for the Youth Scholarship. There is a change to include youth actively participating in St Peter's. Being a parishioner is not required.

Laura Vallera will attend the Chrism Mass and bring the Holy Oils to St Peter.

Additional New Business Items

Mary Beth Iacobelli noted that there have been instances in which the Lector's Mass intention announcement did not match the intention during Mass. The current bulletin on the altar and at the lectern will be confirmed to eliminate future errors.

Vicki Bogden commented that there was parishioner confusion related to Fr Joe's announcement after Masses on the weekend of March 1, changes within the Deanery alignment, and his ongoing service post his 75th birthday, in line with the Diocesan priest retirement guideline. Fr Joe will provide a follow-up and clarification for inclusion in the weekly bulletin.

Ministry Updates

Pro Life Ministry

Mary Todzia reported that the Knights of Columbus will provide a bus to Hartford on March 18th for March for Life. Bus will leave from the Church parking lot.

Mary also highlighted that every Thursday during Lent, at 1:00 in the Church meeting room, there will be an inspirational movie showing. Fatima will be the movie on March 5.

Altar Servers

Skip Paul reported that he will recruit altar servers for Triduum services. Mike Farina said he will assist with the Triduum preparation. Mike also requested a rehearsal to ensure the services run smoothly.

Finance Committee

Ralph Rand reported that weekly collections are off by ~\$8,000. The recent poor weather over the last weekends has not helped. A Town Hall will be planned for after the end of the 4th quarter. The Committee is exploring financial vehicles to increase the yield on the Parish savings account, CDs, and Money Market savings.

Ladies Guild

Vicki Bogdan reported that the Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for March 15. The Kielbasa and Bake sale are scheduled for Palm Sunday.

Tag Sale Committee

Mike Farina shared that the sale dates are April 24, 25, 26, and May 1, 2, 3, until 11 AM Mass. Set-up starting March 24 (revised from February Meeting Minutes) with a break from Holy Thursday to Easter. Breakdown will take 1 week post-sale.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM. Father Marty concluded with a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Marion Enie
Recording Secretary