

Basilica of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

**Joint Parish Council/PPGC/Finance Council Meeting - MINUTES
Tuesday, February 13, 2017 – 6:30 pm**

Mission Statement of the Basilica of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

The Basilica of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception is the only African-American Basilica in the United States and the cornerstone of Catholicism in Tidewater. Our mission is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people, regardless of race, language or culture. Nourished by the Eucharist, we seek to accomplish this by drawing on our rich African-American heritage of Spirit-filled worship, Christ-centered service, and fellowship that recalls our common Father. This is our call. This is our mission.

Call to Order

James Gray

Opening Prayer

JC Gardener

Attendance:

Dana Dixon

Present: James Gray, JC Gardener, Gwen Spencer, Desiree Brown, Harriet Brown, Father Jim, Dana Dixon, Sarah Williams, ReVae Goodwyn, Sergine Mombrun

Absent: Deacon Calvin Bailey, Derric White, Alveta Green, Oretha Pretlow

Also Present: Finance Council – Michele Chesley, Eric Labat; PPGC – Eric Brown, Deborah Lamb, Barbara White, Robert Pretlow; Staff – Nicole Drummond, Luther Adams; Virginia Thumm, Will McCadden

Seating Update

Mr. Eric Brown updated the councils on the most recent update from the Project Manager. Presently there are 364 seats based on present measurements (according to industry standards). New seating estimates an additional 50-100 seats with adding the center aisle. The goal remains to not lose seating, maintain the commons area, and does not count the seating in the balcony. Details on the specific design and configuration are yet to be determined. It was noted that the final decision on the center aisle has not been made. Seating estimates includes kneelers being added as well. Capacity, cost, and design look are all factors to be considered. Council members agreed to move forward with requesting specific drawings and plans to obtain information in order to make a final decision on design.

Budget & Fundraising Update

Mrs. Thumm has supported the PPGC in fundraising efforts. She reported on a fundraising event hosted by Jane Batten, Mayor Alexander. There were 35 people in attendance. She reviewed the Campaign Restoration Funding Summary. It was noted that contingency funds for the project are included in the fundraising goals. Also reported was that a committee is being formed to serve as a liaison between the parish and the fundraising efforts. This committee will be made up of parishioners. Mrs. Thumm also answered some questions from the council members regarding fundraising.

Next Steps & Decisions

Council members agreed to move forward with requesting specific drawings and plans to obtain information in order to make a final decision on design. Parish will be presented with 3 options, maintain the interior layout of the church as is, add a center aisle with a reredos, or add a center aisle with turning the altar around.

Town Hall Meetings

Town Hall Meetings to present new information on 3/10/18 and 3/14/18. Announcements will begin this weekend and be published in the bulletin moving forward. A planning meeting is scheduled for 2/21/18, time TBD.

Next PPC Meeting scheduled for March 13th, 2018 at 6:30pm.

Closing Prayer

Fr. Jim Curran

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Dixon, Secretary

Reminders/Upcoming Events/Important Church Observances

2/14/18	Ash Wednesday
2/17/18	Community Life Ministry Summit 9a-3p St. Paul's Episcopal Church
3/10/18	Parish Renovation Town Hall Meeting – 12pm
3/13/18	NEXT PPC MEETING 6:30p
3/14/18	Parish Renovation Town Hall Meeting – 7pm
3/17/18	PPC New Member Discernment 10a-2p; Basilica Classrooms
4/7/18	Parish Society Ministry Summit 9a-12p; St. Paul's Episcopal Church
4/21/18	Christian Formation Ministry Summit 9a-3p; St. Paul's Episcopal Church
5/19/18	Ministry Fair