

Environmental Stewardship Ministry  
Minutes for November 28, 2021 Meeting

Meeting was called to order by Mariah Doyle at 11:00 am ( live, between masses, in gazebo outside of Saint Matthew).

In attendance: Mariah Doyle (Ministry Leader, Moderator, Parish Council Liaison), Deacon Adelia Sandoval (Member, Clergy Council Liaison). Members present: Sharon Smith (Scribe for this meeting), , Béa Tiritilli, Polly Touhey , Anitha Madanu and Meredythe Hutchinson.

Members excused: Kelly Querijero, Bertie Ninichuck, Deacon Tony Russo.

Deacon Adelia opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of the minutes from the September 26, 2021 meeting was discussed. The date of the field trip was corrected from December 5, 2021 to December 3, 2021. Polly made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Bea, and the motion was passed unanimously.

The Environmental Stewardship Ministry Mission Statement was read by Mariah.

Old Business:

Sacred Lands: Food and Farming Class

Deacon Adelia shared the outcome of the last plan to present Sacred Lands: Food and Farming for a second time. A few people were interested, but did not communicate their interest in time to organize the course. A minimum of five students are needed to offer the class. Deacon Adelia reminded the group that this program has been paid for, and could be presented a second time prior to February 2022 if people are interested. The group agreed to try once more, and to have it begin in January, 2022. The deadline for inviting and confirming new participants is at the next ESM meeting in December.

Potted Plants

The decorative planter pot project was completed. Eighteen new pots have been placed around the church replacing previous pots including ones that had split and cracked open. Plants from the old pots were transplanted into the new ones. Several of the old pots still contain plants such as palm trees. It was suggested that CPRM make an announcement to inform parishioners about the plants in need of a home.

Plant Sale

The plant sale was a success. All twenty succulent gardens sold, and aloe plants sold as well. Sharon made twenty additional gardens to be sold the following week.

New Business:

Styrofoam

Adelia discussed the possibility of eliminating the use of Styrofoam cups at Saint Mathew. Several ideas were generated including: making shelving for ceramic mugs in our existing kitchen cabinets, providing ceramic mugs, people bringing their own mugs, or perhaps

merchandizing custom SMECC mugs for sale. At the very least, simply switching from Styrofoam to paper cups would be a better option.

#### Planting Native Plants at Santiago Park

Bea is arranging with City of Santa Ana Parks and Recreation Department for our ministry to plant native plants at Santiago Park. A specific date is needed to gain approval. We settled on an early Saturday morning (7:00am) in January or February of 2022, avoiding the third Saturday of the month. We have about two dozen native plants to provide.

#### Putuidem Village Park

Deacon Adelia discussed the important dedication of Putuidem Village Park in San Juan Capistrano to be held on Friday December 3, 2021 at 3:30-4:30pm. This is a pre-mission park that took much planning to make happen. It includes native oak trees, willow kiicha structures, and an amphitheater.

#### New ESM Chair for 2022

Mariah discussed stepping down as the ESM Chair for the coming year. She will be the new Parish Council Chair next year. Deacon Adelia offered her help to the new Chair. Sharon offered to continue taking the meeting minutes. Those attending shared various personal circumstances, considerations, and possibilities but no one stepped forward to fill the position. The discussion will continue at the next meeting. Bea thanked Mariah for starting the Environmental Stewardship Ministry, having been interested in such a ministry long before it was actually started.

Closing prayer was given by Deacon Adelia.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Smith