

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday September 6, 2018 @ 8:00 PM

Downstairs Conference Room

Attendance:

- a. **Present:** John Breiten, Deb Burns, Nichole Ferrera, Gayle Hotchkiss, Amy Jacobson, Tim Kriegler, Charity Mulenga, Roger Kemman (Finance Council)
- b. **Staff:** Fr. Mike Resop, Randy Gracyalny, Rob Olsen, Trevor Seivert, Mary Kate Van Wagner, Laura Warzecha
- c. **Excused:** Casey Christofferson, George Riesselmann, Kathy Schmidt

Opening Prayer:

Fr. Mike

- Sunday's Gospel (Mark 7: 31-37)
- Message from Bishop Robert Barron (*Why Remain Catholic*) regarding recent sexual abuse scandals in the Church.

Maintenance to Mission

I. Role of Pastoral Council:

Laura

- To help the pastor make the life and activity of the parish ever more closely conform to the Gospel.
- It does this through effective pastoral planning which involves organizational development, systems design, research, and theological reflection.
- It's concerned with the big picture such as the spiritual direction of the parish whereas commissions and committees help handle smaller matters.

II. Decision Making Process- Consensus or Majority Rule:

Randy

Consensus

- Group members develop and agree to support a decision in the best interest of the whole.
- Requires participation of all members.

Majority Rule

- Decision of group decided according to what receives majority votes.
- Does not require that group comes to any agreements or compromises.
- Those in minority may remove themselves from the decision-making process because they do not have the numbers to significantly impact the vote.

OLA Parish Council is adopting the consensus decision-making process.

- It's important that all council members are heard.
- People should not take objections personally.
- A point was raised that some groups have a consensus model on paper but in practice they do not follow the model.

Approval of Agenda

There was consensus to approve the agenda

Approval of Minutes

Correct name misspellings: Nichole Ferrera (“h” missing) and Mary Kate Van Wagner (under Faith Formation notes).

There was consensus to approve the minutes.

Introductions

Nichole Ferrera, Education Commission, OLA PTO President. Welcome Nichole!

Commission Reports

Pastoral Care

- Work in progress regarding restocking of emergency crisis kit and procedure for emergencies.
- One wheelchair and 2 glucometers were donated to OLA.
- 13-17 blood pressure checks per months (more in warm than cold months)
- Occasionally find individuals with low pulse rate. They are advised to see a doctor.
- 3-9 anointings performed per month.
- Currently have 35 people in facilities and 44 Homebound.
- Keep Fr. Bill in prayers. He’s at St. Mary’s Nursing Home in Madison.
- Laura attended the Beloit Area Ministers Association meeting whose theme was Homelessness. They will be working on central coordination of resources.

Liturgy Commission

- Starting time for OLA Parish Mission sessions is erroneously stated as 7:00pm in the newsletter. It should be 6:30pm.
- The Commission will be reading and discussing the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy for their ongoing education this year.

Education Commission

School

- OLA School has new staff members:
 - Mr. John Berner, Middle School Math/ Science teacher
 - Mr. Brent Baxter, 4th Grade teacher
 - Mrs. Nicole Boylan, School Secretary
 - Mrs. Jackie Doyle, Music teacher
- Extended Care hours have been increased from 5:30pm to 6:00pm in response to requests.
- Security:
 - New door locks for classes in place
 - Received \$20,000 grant from Department of Justice

- Enrollment:
 - Currently at 124 students; will increase to 125 on September 7th.
 - 25 students from St. Thomas and St. Jude
 - There's been an increase in students from St. Thomas and St. Jude over the last 3 years
- OLA PTO
 - Hosting a Great Outdoors Event (Family Campout) on September 15th.
 - Holiday Wreath Sale committee is in place.

Faith Formation

- **Adult Education**
 - Men's Faith Sharing Group has continued with good participation.
 - Baptisms last Sunday (September 2nd) had 14 Hispanic families.
 - RCIA has 5 candidates and will be meeting on Sundays between Masses (9:00 am-10:15 am).
- **Student Formation**
 - Enrollment for Faith Formation is at 73/ projected 185; numbers for last year this time are 80/218.
 - 4th and 6th grade catechists are still needed, as well as more subs and office volunteers.
 - Parent resource for Sacraments new series for 1st Reconciliation and Eucharist from Dynamic Catholic (Matthew Kelly).
- **Youth Ministry**
 - "Circle of Grace" upgraded safe environment curriculum mandated by the diocese. The school can do it fairly simply within their schedule. FF grades 1-5 is within their regular Wednesday schedule. For FF grades 6-8, a ½ day "recollection" will be scheduled to cover the material. High School "Circle of Grace" resources will be incorporated into the "Theology of the Body" sessions that are part of Mary Kate's plan.
 - Mary Kate's programs include Freshman, Sophomore Confirmation, Sunday Middle School between Masses.
- On Catechetical Sunday, September 15 and 16, there will be a blessing for all who are in the teaching ministry of the Church.
- OLA Parish Mission is set for November 11-14.

Childcare

- Currently looking for a new staff member.
- Total of 70 children enrolled ranging from 6 weeks to 12 years of age.
- There are waitlists for all classrooms. Parents are being encouraged to take older children to afterschool care at OLA to hopefully open slots for younger students needing care.
- Child Care received a lot of interest at OLA's Back to School night.
- Dirty Dash was a success; 778 children participated. Child Care plans to sponsor event again next year.
- Will provide activity help and items for Fall Festival at OLA.

Parish Life/ Stewardship Commission

- In the process of updating welcome packet.
- Fall Festival is coming up September 29-30
 - Car Raffle tickets were sent out.
 - Sign-up for volunteers is going well but still need more to sign up.
 - Public media is on-going.
- Time, Talent and Treasure signup is scheduled for October 20/21.

Social Justice

- Planning for the year.
- There will be an International Day of Peace event on September 22 at Hedberg Public Library in Janesville. There will be speakers, activities and informational booths.
- School will make pin wheels in recognition of International Day of Peace.

Finance Council

- Year-end financial report sent with newsletter to parishioners.
- There was a \$16,501 surplus.
- New budget is zero based and is \$1,770,159.
- We are behind in revenue compared to the same time last year.
- Counting people in pews in October might provide clues.
- There's need for technological support for computers on the campus. We are currently interviewing companies in tech support.

New Business

On-Going Business

- Parish Fall Festival is coming up on September 29/30 and there are still openings for volunteers.
- Fall Festival will be held in the same week as sign-up for Family Promise.
- October 23-25, OLA will host School Self-Study Visiting Team.

Good of the Parish

- Ms. Twardowski invited Laura to give a talk to 7th and 8th graders about some of her work. The students are doing a Works of Mercy project and will be writing to parishioners who are homebound or in facilities. It is hoped that they establish pen pals.
- People have complimented the work on the campus grounds.
- OLA School was invited to a local (Beloit) Cross Country meet. The kids enjoyed being there with friends from other schools.

Closing Prayer

Fr. Mike

Next meeting: October 4, 2018 at 8:00 pm.