

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 8:00 p.m.

Downstairs Conference Room

For Rachel: Include a scan of Rachel S.'s meeting minutes and my own

Attendance:

- a. **Present:** Gayle Hotchkiss, Tim Kriegler, Rachel Braun, Charity Mulenga, John Breiten, Amy Jacobson, Rosamaria Laursen, Deb McCann
- b. **Guests:** Randy Gracyalny, Adam Gracyalny, Trevor Seivert, Rachel Shepherd, Rob Olsen, Laura Warzecha
- c. **Absent:** Sandy Blevins, Deb Burns

Opening Prayer

Led by Fr. Mike – Reflection on power of prayer for healing and the importance of leaving space/silence for this prayer and healing to occur

Approval of Agenda Gayle/Amy – with addition of time for Laura Warzecha's proposal under Commission Reports

Approval of Minutes Deb/Amy

Maintenance to Mission - Discussion

25 min

1. There was a review of progress/steps taken over the last year beginning with the commissions' book study of *Maintenance to Mission* to the process of filling out Discipleship slips in the pews three weeks ago
2. Parishioner responses from Discipleship slips were tabulated in generalized categories and have been disseminated amongst commissions and at council meeting (with thanks given to Pat Hemmingway for her assistance in tabulating the responses)
3. Discussion was led on what aspects of the responses were surprising and where this exercise could lead us
 - a. Surprises: Prayer is a form of discipleship; yardwork and other day-to-day tasks are being performed reverently/in a state of discipleship
 - b. Moving forward: Could this activity be used with young people (in the school, in Faith Formation, etc.) to examine and shed light on our young peoples' practices and beliefs?
 - c. Comments: Every act of kindness, politeness, courtesy is showing the light of being a disciple to others; Creation is shot through with grace; This exercise is an illustration of human dignity (regarding the fact that many of these responses reflected parishioners' actions in the face of challenging topics such as death, illness, drug abuse, etc.)

Housekeeping: Council members' contact information was updated for Jeanne's purposes.

Commission Reports

All

30 min

As necessary - Please forward any minutes to the council whenever possible and report only items which require the council's input or action.

- Liturgy Commission
 - Gearing up for Lent
 - Will use FORMED online to offer reflective and enriching activities during Lent.
 - The cross will be relocated to behind the altar during Lent (this is related to planning for the relocation of the tabernacle which will be discussed further in April)
 - Small Lenten reflection books will also be available to parishioners

- Education Commission

Faith Formation:

- Frassatti Fest donations raised ~ \$1,400; to help 7 students to attend with Adam chaperoning

School

- Self-study update: The school is doing very well. The Self-study evaluation process will be longer than previously forecast because of the meeting schedule of the State Board (which will not view the submitted self-study until the future school year). This is no cause for alarm and the school will remain certified.
- A counselor has been hired for the school (from St. Williams, Janesville) and will start soon to be in the building ~one day/week
- OLA school is looking for a Spanish Teacher for next year (part-time)
- Catholic Schools Week is going well; congratulations to the 8th grade team which beat the staff team at the volleyball game.
- The Open House will be the weekend of Feb. 3rd/4th after masses
- Stations of the Cross will be offered on Fridays during Lent
- A Preschool Social will be offered to support 5K enrollment
- Between the daycare and school, 196 students are served

Child Care

- See notes attached below from Rachel Shepherd
- Additional families are registering for daycare
- After Catholic Schools Week, families on the wait list will be notified of space (or lack thereof) for their children

Adult Faith Formation

- Men's Faith Sharing Group is the 3rd Monday of the month and is being offered in response to parishioner request
- 14 people coming into church through the RCIA process.

- Parish Life & Stewardship Commissions

- Met jointly to consider the merging of Stewardship and Parish Life Commissions; this was met positively by members
- There was discussion on the activities/responsibilities of both commissions and what a merger would look like/involve
- There is synergy between activities of both commissions and commission members seek council approval/motion to combine

- Richard Douglas will chair a joint commission
- Motion Gayle/Amy
- Approval awarded by Council
 - John will draft description for this newly combined commission

- Social Justice Commission
 - Ann Sitrik Joyce presented on work addressing Human Trafficking and is putting forth dates for a potential training for attendees/first responders to identify potential survivors of sex trafficking.
- These dates will be proposed to staff
- The Commission proposes a tentative training date in April or May
 - Caritas
- Will continue taking donations for student backpack items
- Asks for assistance in making clients/potential clients aware the availability of diapers through the diaper bank; this is noted in the bulletin
 - Patricia Sowl continues to brainstorm opportunities for collaboration between St. Joan of Arc and young people at OLA; this will probably not take place until the 2018-2019 school year.
 - Salvation Army has experienced a change in management

(Addition to agenda)

- Pastoral Care Commission (as proposed by Laura)
 - Laura proposes a new commission
 - This commission would incorporate Pastoral Ministry Activities that currently take place but do not necessarily fall under the jurisdiction of an existing commission
 - The proposed commission would fill the communication gap regarding many activities that take place but that are not systematically reported to the council including:
 - Hospital Homebound Facility
 - Women's Cluster
 - Prayer Chain Health Committee
 - Respite Care
 - Bereavement Ministry
 - Mother's Ministry
 - A Pastoral Council member from Social Justice could shift to become a liaison of this new commission
 - Diocesan policy/precedent supports the formation of this commission to support the above activities
 - Comments from the council include that such a commission could provide:
 - More structural support for activities that currently exist solely as Laura's responsibility
 - Additional people/ideas to support these valuable activities
 - Motion to approve Gayle/Charity
 - Motion passed
 - John will draft description of new commission for bylaws

Finance Council

- New treads have been placed on stairwell
- Decision has been made to tint the upper windows in entryway of the church so that parishioners are not blinded on leaving the 5:00 mass
- Reviewed the school budget (this is done first in the budgeting process and in conjunction with Catholic Schools Week/the enrollment period so that tuition can be set)

- o A Spanish teacher and counselor are being discussed for the school /child care budget for next year
- o Council budgeted for 116 students last year, but are now sitting at 129 enrolled students (this is great for the budget)
- o The budget is on-track in other areas
- o The council is waiting to hear from the diocese about the cost of health insurance for next year
- o Finance Council will be present when the Self-study team comes to the school
- o Giving is on pace for the year – amounts received are at or above the budget
- o The Investment Bylaws will be examined in a few months when the full Finance Council is in town
- o Will be future discussion of possible allocations because of record highs in the stock market – potential plans have been requested of Fr. Mike/staff

New Business

- Fish Fry on February 2nd
- Volunteer slots are covered with the exception of two spots

On-Going Business

John 5 min.

Good of the Parish

All 5 min.

Council members report:

Display boards regarding commissions have prompted many questions about existing activities and how parishioners can assist. These will most likely be posted on the church website in the future.

Excited to support an increase in attendance, enrollment as parishioners and general involvement by Latino families.

Appreciation of school artwork posted in worship space.

25 children attended the children’s choir practice

General mass attendance appears to be increasing

An elderly parishioner requested assistance getting rides from Roscoe to church – using parish database, it was possible to connect this parishioner with rides to church and exercise class

Closing Prayer

5 min.

Led by Fr. Mike – Doxology was sung

Next Meeting: March 1, 2018 at 8:00