

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 5th, 2018 @ 8:00 p.m.

Downstairs Conference Room

Attendance:

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

Opening Prayer

Reflection from Formed on the 2nd Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday
Prayer led by Fr. Mike – Reflection on Embracing God’s Mercy – where have we received/given God’s mercy?

Approval of Agenda

Gayle: Adjust Parish Life and Stewardship Commissions to reflect that they now form a joint commission

Amy approves/Deb seconds

Approval of Minutes

Pastoral Care removed from minutes because it did not formally exist as a commission at the time of March Council meeting;

Stewardship/Parish Life – discussion points further developed

Gayle approves/Amy seconds

Maintenance to Mission - Discussion

25 min

Are we a mission parish? (Parish flowchart has been distributed for reference)

- Over the next month, Council members are asked to prayerfully consider:
 - Is what we are doing bringing others closer to Christ and God?
 - Reflections will be shared at the May meeting
- Reference to Collection/Fund Raising list from Randy which listed all the times we ask the parish to support a certain charity or project.

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.

- Pastoral Care Commission
 - April meeting was mainly informational in nature
 - Members were brought up to speed on existing practices and where more help is needed
 - 14 attending members
 - Commission is looking for 1-2 people to represent each group listed on p. 3 of the parish flowchart
 - Eucharistic Ministry at the weekend liturgies
 - Visiting Ministry to the shut-ins and sick
 - Prayer Services at nursing homes
 - Transport Parishioners to church and appointments
 - Eucharistic Liturgies
 - Commission is also looking for a chair person as Laura will split her time on meeting days between the Pastoral Care and Social Justice Commissions
 - Laura explained the documentation process for Homebound Visits, Hospital Visits, etc.
 - Patricia Sowl is digitizing this documentation, which will facilitate follow-up visits after an initial need is established
 - A spreadsheet has been developed to facilitate communication amongst Pastoral Ministers (Eucharistic Ministers, etc.)
 - Commission sees a great deal of opportunity for volunteer involvement and is discussing ways to best organize this
 - A volunteer list for Respite Care (and need for respite care) is being developed
- Liturgy Commission
 - Holy Week was reviewed. Feedback includes:
 - The services throughout the week flowed beautifully and very cohesively
 - RCIA candidates' experience was very moving – candidates and their families/friends expressed a great deal of gratitude towards the parish
 - The council expresses gratitude and appreciation to Randy and his liturgical team for a beautiful Lent and Holy Week
 - The Tabernacle will be moved to behind the altar (in the main worship space) by the first Sunday of Lent, 2019
 - The Crucifix will remain where it is until Pentecost Sunday than be moved back to sanctuary
- Education Commission
 - **Faith Formation:**
 - April 28, 2018 is the date for youth ministry volunteering/assisting for St. Vincent De Paul store clean-up day
 - **School**
 - Self-study update: Teachers are reviewing teaching standards and self- and peer-studying how these align with their teaching practice; this work will be

forwarded to school administration to be reviewed and then sent to the Diocese for final review. Intent is to have renewed certification by Oct. 2019

- Trevor Sievert attended the School Safety Conference hosted by Dane County Sheriff; the staff continues to meet and train on how best to maintain campus security
- Registration for 2018-19 is on track for previous years; 90 students are currently registered more current students are expected to register soon
- Trevor Seivert is highlighting OLA school teacher Nikki Hoosier's for receiving the Herb Kohl Educator award; this is a prestigious regional award that will qualify her to be considered for the State of WI Teacher of the Year Award later this year. She is a very talented teacher!
- Discussion of open positions at school: Adam has accepted a position at a Computer Tech. company which he will begin in July, so administration is in the hiring process to fill his positions as Youth Minister as well as that of a part-time Spanish teacher, a part time music teacher and a school secretary
- Spring Fling is April 14. Please purchase tickets and attend. This is the most biggest fundraising event of year for the school. Due to limited interest from parents, the previous discussion on hiring YMCA childcare for children of parents attending this event will be tabled.

Child Care

- April 16-20 is Week of the Child
- There is an upcoming performance in Grinnell Hall; see attached notes for additional information

Adult Faith Formation

- In light of Adam's changing position, will re-envision structuring of Faith Formation
 - Ads have already been placed in search of a new youth minister
 - Confirmation on 4/18 at 7:00 (Wednesday)
 - 1st Communions begin 4/28 at 5:00; 4/29 Fr. Mike will celebrate First Communions at St. Stephen's
 - The weekend of 5/5 & 5/6, First Communions will be celebrated at all masses (~12 communicants at each mass)
 - April 25th is last class for Religious Education classes and a mass will be celebrated
 - Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June. The theme is Discovering Jesus Around the World
- Parish Life & Stewardship Commissions (Joint)
 - o Building on March meeting and discussing how to:
 - Increase involvement on committee and general volunteerism
 - Identify major events and document what needs to happen when
 - Focus on individual invitations for parishioners to volunteer for this
 - o Discussion on the Maintenance to Mission concept and how best to engage younger generation(s) of parishioners as volunteers
 - o Interest in discussion with juniors and seniors in high school as well as young adults about how to continue fostering this sense of volunteerism

- o There are ideas for a Care Package Program which may include packages for young people/parishioners as they go to college or military, etc.
- o The Good Friday Fish Fry fed 225 people and raised >\$800 each for St. Vincent De Paul and 16:49
- Social Justice Commission
 - See attached minutes
 - Patricia Sowl is working through the Maryknoll and Glenmary websites in order to gather information for the bulletin and possible collaborations for children and adults to continue bringing renewed awareness about the Sister Parish relationship with St. Joan of Ark
 - the financial commitment of \$2600.00 is collected for St. Joan of Arc each year
 - Social Justice Commission is reflecting on the commission presence at the Good Friday Fish Fry – what were objectives/were they met and how could this presence be adjusted to increase interaction with participants for next year? There was discussion about going table to table in order to increase exposure at a future fish fry or other event.
 - Please be aware of an event to bring attention to Human Trafficking on May 1st at OLA
- Finance Commission
 - o Budget looks good
 - o We are spending what we take in
 - o Commission is prioritizing needs for campus projects and taking into consideration the following points:
 - To maintain campus' status quo requires \$195,000 this year
 - Many High-visibility projects have already been completed
 - An aging campus (the new church is now 14 years old!) requires ongoing maintenance
 - Many new projects are less visible (boilers, new roofs, parking lot replacements, etc.) but still needed
 - Phase 2 of the Campus security project (school, childcare and church) is underway and requires \$70,000 for completion. Finance commission is working on the funding (Phase 1 is complete, and Phase 2 involves installation of additional cameras in hallways, key fobs for doors, lockout hardware, etc.)
 - Campus technology team: is working through the request list and will present projects and cost at May's meeting
 - o OLA has met 78% of our goal for the Annual Catholic Appeal so far

New Business

- Active Shooter Response Training
 - o Frs. Mike and John and parish staff have attended a training on Active Shooter Response
 - o A Security Team will be established in the future
 - o This will be discussed further at the April 12 Cluster Meeting

- o The training emphasizes that in the case of an emergency event, parishioners and others are encouraged to first **Run**, then **Hide**, and only when the first two actions are impossible **Fight**
- o Doors to the church are locked in times when risk is assessed to be greater
- o Drills have taken place at the school and child care
- o More will be presented in the future at weekend liturgies.
- o **Cluster Meeting 4/12 at 6:30 at St. Thomas:** will begin with prayer, looking at the newly renovated church and Ellen Joyce will present on potential collaborations related to issues of Social Justice.

On-Going Business

John 5 min.

- Spring Clean-up on April 21st
 - o Sign-up will be offered at April 7-8th masses
- Looking for new candidates for Pastoral Council these two members have served their terms
 - o Deb McCann
 - o Rachel Braun

Good of the Parish

All 5 min.

- Beloit Daily News recognizes Beth Gleibe , Pauline Messenger and Ann Joyce for their involvement and service to the Beloit community. Congrats !
- RCIA candidates and sponsors extended their gratitude for the experience of the Easter Vigil.

Closing Prayer

5 min.

Led by Fr. Mike

Next Meeting: May 3, 2018 at 8:00