

Minutes

St. Patrick Parish Pastoral Council

January 26, 2010

Present: Father Dan, Father Bill, Carrie Whitacre, Joy Case, Ron Daulton, Nini Milbrath, Shawn Porter, Heidi Young

Also Present: Terry Bogenhagen, Anjanette Conway, Larry Huiras, Mary Piasecki, Cathy Smolinske,, Claire Zajac, Maureen Wegleitner, Gail Kotoski, John Rukavina, Phyllis Koss

Excused Absence: Roger Pelzel

Absent: Rich O'Connor

The meeting was called to order with roll call by chair Carrie Whitacre at 7:05

The Gospel for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary time was read, reflected upon, and discussed.

1. Minutes from 11/24/09

Amended to include in the PCCW report the names of Gail Kotoski and Stephanie Weber in the list of people who are working on the seating around the fireplace in the Gathering area of the Church.

The Minutes were then approved.

2. Committee Reports:

a. Liturgy – Terry Bogenhagen

b. School – Mary Piasecki

c. Youth Ministry – Anjanette Conway Anjanette was doing Confirmation interviews – her report will be forwarded to you as it becomes available

d. Faith Formation – Larry Huiras

e. Stewardship – Claire Zajac

It is a concern of the Stewardship Committee that Fellowship after the 11 o'clock mass is often omitted. Discussion followed – It comes down to getting volunteers to stay the length of time involved (often until 2PM). Also attendance is sporadic and seasonal after this Mass. Father Dan's suggestion is that someone (Stewardship will do this) get the groups together who do Fellowship after the Masses (Home & School / Faith Formation; PCCW, KC's, Stewardship) in April to evaluate the situation. The individual groups are also to talk it over in their committees and come back with suggestions at a further meeting.

f. Social Concerns

g. PCCW

Gail brought her report so members were not able to read it ahead of time.

It was noted that the Christmas Tea was the same night as the parish Penance service. It was suggested that consulting the parish schedule on the website would eliminate this conflict. There was discussion as to the protocol for handling expenses and workers for parish dinners and other parish sponsored events. Father Dan said that people should first check with Ellen in the office. Gail is encouraged to hand in her receipts for expenses incurred during Sister Bernadette's weekend visit.

h. Finance

3. Election of Vice Chair

The duties of the Vice Chair are to help with coordinating agenda, step in when chair is not able to be present, and (probably) assume duties of the chair following the term of the present Chair.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously agreed to that **Ron Daulton** should assume the role of Vice Chair.

4. Welcoming Committee

John Rukavina heads a newly formed committee working in the area of welcoming new parishioners, making them feel comfortable, mentoring them, and helping them to get involved in the ministries of St. Patrick Parish. The members of the committee are passionate about the importance of welcoming new parishioners. (Members are: John Rukavina, Steve Hermson, George Boldizar, and Joan Homstad.

This committee is in the process of generating a map of where our parishioners live so as to establish Block Captains who will be the first contact for new parishioners. Hospitality and welcoming is of prime importance. This organizational form can be used for **welcoming, supporting** families in need, and **celebrating** in neighborhoods. Next meeting (February 3) will discuss 'what is the next step?'

5. Election subcommittee

Two new Parish Council members will be elected in May. A minimum of three candidates is necessary – more are desirable. There will be a blurb in the bulletin alerting parishioners to consider serving the parish as a member of the Parish Council. The need for candidates can also be spread by word of mouth. Present members are encouraged to bring names of possible candidates who are enthusiastic and interested in the parish to the March Parish Council meeting.

In an April bulletin a sample ballot will be printed including a bio and picture of candidates (also on the bulletin board in the vestibule.

Electors need to be confirmed members of the parish.

6. Fall Fest Committee

The concerns at this time are: When to have the Fall Fest, what it will entail (keep it simple- Raffle / fun thing / Dinner), and how long the event should run, and how to engage more people volunteering for the event.

It was decided that we should not be paying people to volunteer.

7. Finance

The needs assessment for buildings and grounds is ongoing. We can save money through Xcel Energy by making some improvements and there are also state grants for making improvements that would result in further savings.

The new envelope system is in place.

In two weekends people contributed \$15,000 to the relief effort in Haiti.

A letter was included in the financial statements asking people who did not give to indicate if they wish to remain members of the parish. After the response to this letter is received we should have a better idea of who is and who is not part of the parish.

Meeting next week with staff for budget

Accounting procedures have been cleaned up and are in line with diocesan procedures. This also means that if money is collected for a specific purpose it is not put in the 'general' account but set aside in a special account.

8. Pictorial Directory

The committee of Joy Case, Nini Milbrath, and Heidi Young will meet "soon" to determine what Lifetouch and Owen Mills will provide and which is a better fit for our needs. They also need to find out how long before the book is delivered.

A pictorial directory involves no cost to the parish – only to the people ordering pictures.

10. 2010 / 2011 School budget

Need to look at this year - see where we're at

School meeting in Superior on finances / accounting in February

Can't keep borrowing to keep going

Accountability is in place now that takes Diocesan procedures into account

There was much discussion about the previous lack of accountability and how budgets were not sent to diocese in the past. The question was raised as to why did the diocese not demand those budgets, why was the situation allowed if diocesan procedures were not being followed?

There is a need for transparency hence the update on current monthly expenses included in the bulletin and posted on the website.

Father Dan led the council in a closing prayer

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 PM

Next Meeting: March 23, 2010

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis Koss, recording secretary