

Minutes

St. Patrick Parish Pastoral Council

March 23, 2010

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

Also Present: Terry Bogenhagen, Anjanette Conway, Larry Huiras, Mary Piasecki, Brian Huffman, Claire Zajac_Howard Cameron, Phyllis Koss

Absent: Rich O'Connor, Shawn Porter, Cathy Smolinske

The meeting was called to order with roll call by chair Carrie Whitacre at 7:08 PM.

The Gospel for the 5th Sunday in Lent (John 8:1 – 11) was read, reflected upon, and discussed.

1. The Minutes from 1/26/10 were approved as written.
2. Committee reports:
 - a. Liturgy (Terry Bogenhagen)

Report submitted, also meeting minutes from Liturgy meeting as well as Music Ministry meeting.
 - b. School (Mary Piasecki)

The boiler overheated and activated the sprinkler system in the gym on 3/19/10 and the fire department responded. The gym floor can be saved (a few boards will need to be replaced) and is covered by insurance. The floor will be refinished next summer. The boiler is not covered by insurance. It was suggested that this information be put in the bulletin to allay fears and forestall rumors. Father Dan talked about the background for his letter concerning the rumor that he is going to close the school
 - c. Youth Minister (Anjanette Conway)

The Youth have been engaged in a number of activities: bagging groceries at Family Fresh, doing hospitality after Mass, assisting with the Clergy Appreciation Dinner and Friday Fish Fries, enjoying movie night, and doing Confirmation interviews. Some upcoming events include: hosting a Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's on 4/15, a Burger Night at Dick's on 5/ 15, and hosting brunch with the KC's. Also coming are: Confirmation retreat, Baccalaureate, Summer Stretch, and a Blessing Mass.
 - d. Faith Formation (Larry Huiras)

Report submitted ahead of time
 - e. Stewardship (Howard Cameron)

The team exploring the welcoming of new members has been meeting regularly, they are looking in to mapping software that would establish the kind of neighborhood groups the Catholic HS Task Force used.

Hospitality after the Masses: Consistent numbers after all the Masses (more after the 11 o'clock than 7). Important contacts are made during this time (for example: school received a new student due to a contact at hospitality) and groups are encouraged to continue hospitality after the 11 o'clock Mass. Several 'older parishioners' have come forward for helping with hospitality after the 9 o'clock Mass who are reaching out to new people.

Reminding the presider to announce hospitality helps with attendance. Hospitality is also being planned for Saturday May 1st after the 5 PM Mass. The youth have consistently had about 40 people when they do Saturday night hospitality.

Dianne Evert is still working with Ushers and Greeters and also on getting training for the use of the defibrillator. It was noted that Tim DeJardin from school is an EMT and certified to teach life saving courses – he could provide this training for any who wish. We are all reminded to introduce ourselves to obviously new people at church.

Claire brought up the annual Stewardship Conference held at the Hudson Golf Course. She will work up an invitation to all parish leaders, encouraging them to attend this conference on May 4. The parish pays the entrance fee for all who attend.

f. Social Concerns (Wegleitners)

Report submitted ahead of time detailing where they are in their annual plan

g. PCCW (Gail Kotoski)

Did not submit report or attend meeting

h. Finance (Brian Huffman)

Three members have left the committee. One new member is joining (David Zuraff) so they are in need of possibly two more members.

Energy needs in the church to consider: lighting, boiler upgrade as well as AC.

School needs and concerns: teacher contracts and proportion of income provided by parish. (See #4 below)

There was discussion about whether with the new envelope system there will be enough income (without the Building Fund envelope) to pay the church debt. This is something we will have to wait and see about.

A graph was presented which tracked # of givers and different categories of giving for the years 2007 – 2009. Father Dan would like to see this continued until we have a five year history of giving.

3. Elections

Nomination forms for new parish council members will be in back of church stacked by the bulletins. So far no one has come forth to nominate themselves or others.

4. School Budget

The diocesan recommendation is that for school funding

40% come from school tuition,

40% from the parish, and

20% from fundraising.

At St. Pat's the actual numbers are:

48% from Tuition,

39.5% from the parish subsidy, and

12.5% from fundraising, grants, and gifts.

Of concern to some when they see the budget is that the amount for teacher salaries is the greatest figure. But this is true for any school. Our teachers are highly qualified and most of them have been at St. Pat's for a number of years. For many years the goal has been to maintain teacher salaries at 80% of public school salaries (minus all the extras public school teachers are compensated for). Father Dan suggested the range of salaries of teachers in the Great Lakes Region would be something to look at.

Mary Piasecki quoted Bishop Peter who says, "More than one institution on a campus doesn't work," reminding us that we are ONE unit for ministry purposes and perhaps our fundraising should begin to reflect that. We need to coordinate fundraising in the parish, not just look at school fundraising. Some of the present, long standing fundraisers may not be viable for much longer. (Example is the Magazine Fundraiser) Perhaps this is an area where the Development Group could give some input and insight.

5. Parish Viability Assessment – Diocesan Directed (Father Dan)

Before the Diocesan Viability Assessment can begin they need to make sure that all 105 parishes in Diocese have been incorporated, take care of the ones that have not been and dissolve the ones where the parish is no longer in existence.

The New Springtime assessment provided for how to assess the needs of the parishes of each of the 5 deaneries, how to serve those needs, and where to cluster. The data from that study extended to 2010. It now needs to be further extended.

People from the diocese will come to the parish to train us to carry out the assessment. We don't have the dates for that yet or a timeline because of the concern about the legal status of some parishes. The study will give us a chance to see where we are at in terms of Catholic Identity in the areas of:

- Liturgical Practice
- Catholic Formation
- Parish Life and mission
- Parish management

At present our diocese has 46 priests to serve the needs of 105 parishes. By 2020 it is projected there will be only 30 priests. The question of leadership will be vital.

a. Vision Statement

It was decided to adopt the Vision statement that Pastoral Council had been working on as a working document for now and then revisit it at the end of the parish viability process to see if it fits with the outcome in terms of parish future and whether it matches what we decide we are about. It will be published on the parish home page in the future. (When the schedule for the Triduum and Easter Sunday are no longer needed there.)

7. Stewardship Leadership Conference Update (Claire Zajac)

The Stewardship Committee presented a proposed timeline for a Leadership Retreat to be held on a Saturday next fall. This leadership retreat will focus on the spirituality of leadership, why we are called to that role, and how to nurture communication and planning skills for the benefit of the parish. The plan is to invite clergy, staff, Parish Council, Finance Council, Trustees, Committee chairs and members, leaders of ministries, and any parishioners exploring leadership roles in the parish (including youth – if the yet to be developed agenda is appropriate for their participation) Attendees will be asked to make a commitment to moving forward with parish

visioning and planning. Parish Council gave the go-ahead to continue with their planning timeline.

8. Financial Assessment of Grounds Update (Father Dan, Brian Huffman)

We are still waiting for engineering reports before this can be a profitable topic for discussion.

9. Fall Fest Update (Roger Pelzel)

The Committee is looking at the 1st weekend in October as the date for the Fall Fest. (Will check community calendars before finalizing.) There is a home game between Hudson / River Falls Friday evening which could work to our advantage. They have spent time brainstorming how to get more people, groups in the parish, volunteers involved, how to utilize the resources, talents of parishioners rather than spending so much money on outside entertainment.

There is a need to get raffle tickets out to parishioners earlier – they cannot be mailed and the parish bookkeeper should be involved and is a resource for info on past Fall Fest expenses.

The committee will meet again in a month to continue the brainstorming and planning process for this parish festival.

10. Pictorial Directory Update (Nini Milbrath, Joy Case, Heidi Young)

Nini and Heidi met with representatives of both Life Touch and Olan Mills.

The representative from Life Touch was haphazard and unprofessional while the rep from Olan Mills was organized and professional and definite in pricing and what they would offer.

Consequently Olan Mills will be doing our pictorial directory.

The photography dates are: May 28, June 1 – 5, 15 – 19, 23, 29, 30, and July 1,2

Each parishioner having pictures taken will receive a leatherette directory (with 12 photos per page) and a free 8 X 10 . All scheduling will be done on line with phone calls by Olan Mills to those not signing up. Directories will be delivered 2 -3 months after photography. Olan Mills also provides an online directory for office staff and family use. Larry asked about the possibility of jpg photos for use in data bases for church, formation, and school. That is something to look into. There is no cost to the parish and Olan Mills will do all the work.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:23 PM

Next Meeting: May 25, 2010

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis Koss, recording secretary