

**St. Sebastian Pastoral Council Minutes  
February 12, 2018**

Location: St Sebastian Multiple Purpose Room

In attendance: Fr. Larry Chapman, Eunice Frieeseke, Michelle Hansen, Cathy Hoffman, Lori Larch, Jen Ohlendorf, Carole Poth, Stephen Ragatz, Del Slowik, Margaret Wiemer, and Jim Ewig, and guest Joann

Excused: Dillon Ambrose, Edie Schwabe, Maricolette Walsh, Andrew Zeidler

The meeting was called to order at 07:04.

**Opening Prayer**

Lori led the Council with a Lenten themed prayer.

**Approval of Previous Minutes**

Lori moved to approve the January minutes. Cathleen seconded the motion. There were no abstentions.

**Committee Reports**

**Faith Formation**

Joann, committee chair, reported the committee is currently focusing on 2 goals for 2018.

1. They would like to increase the number of children and adults attending the Sunday Faith Formation programs. She noted that there was a drop in the confirmation enrollees due to the rise in the number of students going to Catholic high school.
2. Continue the baptismal project which systematically provides parents with faith based material after the baptism

The committee would also like to see an expanded use to the parish Goggle calendar.

Faith Formation would like to begin meeting with other committees to share ideas and avoid overlapping projects.

**Prayer and Worship**

Steve reported that Mike Kamenski would like to schedule a number of “post-Mass” learning sessions. These would take place after Mass and would explain the details of the Mass.

Steve also noted that the committee currently has more requests for projects than there are funds available.

The committee would also like to see additional efforts to “welcome children” at the Mass. A few of the ideas mentioned were to include music that is more “child friendly” and to have the Ushers encourage parents to bring an unruly child back into church after the kid is calmed. The Council continued this discussion and wanted to emphasize this is an area the parish can improve.

**School**

Lori shared a handout regarding the financial commitment for students of new parishioners registered after July 1, 2018. There is a revision to the education funding model. The Council then began a lengthy discussion around the rules and requirements of the change. Because the School uses a number of “tuition” models, that included tithing, tuition, and

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Choice, there was some sentiment that requiring some parents to provide this information may have negative consequences.

**Administrator Report**

Carole distributed a handout regarding the Parish's Strategic Plan. The plan began this January and has both themes and goals. There are two goals. The first is nurturing a thriving community by enraging the Sacramental Life and worship experience. The second is to care for and sustain our resources. Carole asked the Council to approve the plan. The plan is meant to be a living document that will last for the future with a yearly review. Jen suggested that a more formal directive be written into the plan that each year the Council must review the plan. Lori moved to approve the document with addition.

Mission Insight – Carole has scheduled a “Keepers of the data” meeting for Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. The intent is reconvene the data keepers and review the new enhancements to the Mission Insight software.

**Old Business**

Jen stated none

**New business –**

Jen led with the need to recruit new candidates for Pastoral Council. She asked for volunteers to lead a recruitment project. Margaret, Eunice and Lori each volunteered. The plan is due from the volunteers by the next Pastoral Council meeting. The plan is due from the volunteers by the next Pastoral Council meeting.

A need for inter-committee planning has been identified. Jen stated this will be discussed at the March meeting. The purpose of the inter-committee meeting is to determine “what is possible” and how we can best collaborate. Cathleen suggested that the Committee Chairs meet first. Del suggested including the Pastoral Council liaisons. The meeting should occur in May. The parish strategic plan will be presented at this meeting. This meeting would also include the Finance Council and Building and Grounds Committee Chair.

The Council also discussed the success of the new parishioner welcome dinner which was held on Sunday February 11th.

**Fr Larry's report**

None

**Next Meeting**

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Monday March 5<sup>th</sup> at St Catherine.

**Upcoming Dates**

The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm