

St. Sebastian Pastoral Council Minutes
March 05, 2018

Location: St Catherine

In attendance: Dillon Ambrose, Fr. Larry Chapman, Eunice Frieseke, Michelle Hansen, Cathy Hoffman, Lori Larch, Jen Ohlendorf, Carole Poth, Stephen Ragatz, Edie Schwabke, Del Slowik, Maricolette Walsh, Margaret Wiemer, and Jim Ewig

Excused: Andrew Zeidler

Jen called the meeting to order at 07:02.

Opening Prayer

Maricolette provided the opening prayer. The Council read the prayer together.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Maricolette moved to approve the February minutes with corrections. Lori seconded the motion. There were no abstentions.

Committee Reports

Faith Formation

Cathleen stated there was no February committee meeting

Human Concerns

Edie reported that the Winter Farmers market was held yesterday. It was well attended. The proceeds from the Rice Bowl campaign will be directed toward Teosinte and the Hunger Task Force.

Finance

Maricolette reported that she was not able to attend the February Finance Council meeting.

Prayer and Worship

Steve stated the committee did not meet in February.

School

Lori reported there are efforts to approve and hire a part time data manager to assist Heather Grams. The committee is also looking to recruit additional members.

Buildings and Grounds

Del stated the lighting in the sanctuary is being updated. A prototype fixture has been installed. Maintenance for both school and church is an ongoing issue. The bell tower may be leaking again. Del is working with the committee on a strategic plan to manage and work through these issues. At this time, there is no ETA to the plan. Maricolette added that the projects below are the ones currently receiving focus;

- Exterior gym wall
- Exterior school wall
- Parish house roof

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- 55th street concrete apron to the garages
- Mud jacking the concrete slab to the gathering space.

Stewardship

Dillion reported that the committee postponed their meeting until Wednesday this week. The welcome chili cook off was again discussed. The Council also discussed additional options for welcoming new parishioners.

Recruitment plan

Eunice led off the discussion. She stated she has a list of names and felt that Fr. Larry may want to review the list prior to the potential candidates being contacted. The idea of inviting the candidates to the June meeting was also mentioned. Jen would like the new Council members to be on board by July 1, 2018. It was felt that we will need a commitment from them prior to June. The Council members would officially start their terms with the August Pastoral Council meeting. A recruitment pulpit pitch may also be used.

A discussion ensued regarding the volunteer portal. The parish has a variety of leadership needs in addition to Pastoral Council. Specifically, we'll need someone to head the auction for the upcoming year.

Administrator Report

See combined section below.

Old Business

Jen stated none

New business –

Jen re-initiated the discussion regarding the recruitment of new candidates to the Pastoral Council. She asked for volunteers to lead a recruitment project and develop a recruitment plan. Margaret, Eunice and Lori each volunteered. 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 April Council meeting. The purpose of the inter-committee meeting is to determine "what is possible" and how we can best collaborate as a parish. 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 the Building and Grounds Committee Chair.

Pastor's and Administrator's combined Report

Fr Larry and Carole wanted the Pastoral Council to have a solid understanding of our tithing model, and to be able to explain the model to other parishioners if needed. They distributed a hand out on tithing and the "One Pot" funding model. The Council proceeded to review our tithing process/model and the "one pot" model. Fr Larry reviewed the history of tithing. How do we respond to and with the gifts that God has provided to us is extremely important. Giving should be an act of joy and gratitude, not an act of obligation.

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Carole continued the discussion on the One Pot philosophy. In order for one pot to work, the leadership of the parish must be strong. The Pastoral Council must discern the needs of the parish and community, and choose the direction to be taken. The Finance Council will then implement those plans. The disadvantage of "Ear mark" giving has discussed. The ill effect of this process is that only the popular needs are being met. It is important that both the needs of school and church are met. St Sebastian currently allows some ear mark giving, most notably the "stop the auction" event. Capital campaigns such as roof and boiler were also mentioned as exceptions.

The Council discussed the advantages and disadvantages of both models and even a mixed model. The consensus is that trust is critical to giving, and that the giver "feels" good about giving.

Deferring

Due to lack of time, the Council deferred the review of Michelle's handout on school funding. The plan is to discuss this at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Monday April 9th at St Sebastian.

Upcoming Dates

The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Ewig