

St Sebastian Pastoral Council Minutes  
October 01, 2018

Location: St Catherine Parish

In attendance: Jeffrey Altenburg, Fr. Larry Chapman, Eunice Frieseke, Michelle Hansen, Judy Hill, Cathleen Hoffman, Lori Larch, JoAnn Stasiewicz, Maricolette Walsh, Margaret Wiemer, and Jim Ewig

Guests: None

Excused: Carole Poth, Steven Ragatz, and Edie Schwabe

Lori called the meeting to order at 07:02PM.

### **Opening Prayer**

Lori led the Council in opening prayer.

### **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Lori moved to approve both the June and August minutes. Dillon seconded the motion. There were no abstentions.

### **Teosinte Discussion**

St. Sebastian will be sending another delegation to Teosinte, El Salvador. It has been customary that a gift for our sister parish be sent along with the delegation. The Pastoral Council has been asked to participate in choosing the gift. Lori queried the Council for suggestions. Several ideas were shared. A number of the Council felt a framed picture of St Sebastian church would be appropriate. Michelle will check with Joann Perleberg on financing for the portrait and Margaret will look into a photographer.

### **Teacher Appreciation Plan**

Steve Ragatz has offered to fund the cost of an appreciation lunch for the teachers. Joann will work to have individually packaged cookie gifts prepared for each teacher. Lori felt that several Council members should attend the luncheon and possibly act as servers during the lunch. Judy, Joann and Eunice each mentioned that they would be available to assist.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance** – Maricolette stated the fiscal year started July 1<sup>st</sup>. Non-parishioner tuition is down approximately \$7000. PAL revenue is currently breaking even. Our loan from Catholic Financial is now down to \$59,000. We're getting in a position where new projects can now be considered and reviewed. Not many parishioners are currently using pay pal to make their weekly offering. Luke Bruenmeier from LPi, the company that publishes our bulletins, was a guest of the meeting. He introduced a more versatile service that would allow parishioners to make their offerings on-line. The Finance Council approved the service, and it will be launched in the near future. Regular contributions are down \$16,000 since July 1<sup>st</sup>. This was alarming to the Council. A specific reason was not mentioned. Kevin Mullens reported that the school received a \$34,000 grant for the purpose of improving school security. At end of last fiscal year, a number of repairs and purchases were made. The parish house windows were caulked, glazed and painted. Eight school sinks were purchased as well as a computer. And the parish house roof was repaired. Maricolette stated she will be working more closely with the Building and Grounds committee going forward. The bell tower is leaking again and is also in need of tuck pointing. This will be a costly repair. Holly Rittenberg is the new chair of the Buildings and Grounds committee.

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**Faith Formation** – Cathleen stated that there are twenty four students enrolled in confirmation class and attendance is good. All open positions for catechists have been filled. There are fifty one students registered in K5 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade faith formation. The family orientation for faith formation went well. Ed Duncklee is leading the adult formation program and working with the Human Concerns committee. There are two upcoming retreats scheduled. It was noted at the meeting that some families are having an issue coming up with the money to pay for their faith formation programs. The Council discussed the potential of financial aid or scholarship. The Faith Formation committee is looking for a parent from the school to join the committee. They are very interested in a candidate that has small children.

**Human Concerns** – Edie was not able to attend the Council meeting. There was no report.

**Prayer and Worship** – Steve was not able to attend the Council meeting; however, he forwarded Prayer and Worship notes prior to this meeting. The Council read these at their leisure.

**Stewardship** - JoAnn reported that members from both the Stewardship and Human Concerns committees met in September. They will be working on a joint service project to be conducted somewhere in the neighbor. There is the potential to recruit Marquette students to assist with the project. Joann also stated that CJ Murray is leading the plans for the volunteer appreciation night event on October 10<sup>th</sup>. Invitations for the event were made via the parish bulletin and the newsletter.

**School** – Jeff reported the student population is right where it was projected. There are 327 total students. The Catholicity of the population is 65% and 65% of the students are receiving Choice funding.

**Pastors Report** – Fr Larry shared details on the upcoming “Amazing Parish” conference which will be held this October. Fr. Larry also shared additional information regarding the recruiting process being used to find his replacement. A consultation of the Pastoral Councils by the Priest Placement Board will be held probably in January or February, 2019 to determine the kind of pastoral leader that would be the best fit for our two parishes.

**Discuss with Fr. Larry about meeting restructure.**

Lori posed the question if there is a better meeting structure for the Joint Pastoral Council meetings. There were several ideas discussed, one in which the Joint Council meeting would be held first and then the individual Councils would meet. Additional input and agreement from St Catherine’s Council needs to occur prior to moving forward.

**New business**

None

**Next Meeting**

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Monday November 5th, 2018 at 7pm at St Sebastian.

The meeting adjourned at 09:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Ewig