

St Sebastian Pastoral Council Minutes  
March 4, 2019

Location: St Catherine

In attendance: Jeffrey Altenburg, Dillon Ambrose, Eunice Frieseke, Michelle Hansen, Judy Hill, Cathleen Hoffman, Lori Larch, Carole Poth, Edie Schwabe, JoAnn Stasiewicz, Maricolette Walsh, Margaret Wiemer, and Jim Ewig

Excused: Stephan Ragatz

Lori called the meeting to order at 07:15PM.

**Approval of Previous Minutes**

The Council addressed minutes from the past three months.

Cathleen moved to approve the December minutes. Eunice seconded the motion. There were no abstentions.

Dillon moved to approve the January minutes. Jeff seconded the motion. There were no abstentions.

Dillon moved to approve the February minutes. Judy seconded the motion. There were no abstentions.

**Committee Reports**

**Finance** – Maricolette updated the Council on a number of topics. Holly Rutenbeck, chair of the Buildings and Grounds committee, had obtained a bid from Staff Electric for the “bell tower lighting” project. Holly is also arranging to have Bloom Electric, perform an inspection and evaluation of the St Sebastian campus buildings.

At the last meeting, the Finance Council voted to make the Development Director an official position, but will pursue filling the position at a later date.

The Archdiocese raised their assessment for St Sebastian for the upcoming year. There will be increases over the next 3 years. This year’s assessment is \$82,000 and the following year will be \$92,000.

The Archdiocese sent notice to all parishes directing them to cease any fund raising projects for at least the next 6 months related to Capitol Expenses. The Archdiocese will perform a capitol campaign for the entire Archdiocese.

The Pastoral Council revisited the discussion regarding the models of tithing verse tuition for school income. Opinions for both models were brought forth and debated.

Carole stated that all new parishioners will receive an orientation. The orientation will include information on stewardship and tithing opportunities within the parish. This will not replace the “Welcome Sunday” orientations, but instead be a follow up to “Welcome Sunday”.

**Faith Formation –**

The Faith Formation programs currently has \$905 in outstanding participate fees. The scope of the shortage covers nine families and thirteen children. Cathleen asked how this is to be resolved. Joann Perleberg may be reaching out to families regarding a payment plan.

**Human Concerns** – Edie stated the Winter Farmers Market was a big success. 444 people had come to the breakfast.

**Prayer and Worship** – Stephan was not able to attend the meeting, but forwarded minutes for the Council to review.

**Stewardship** – No report

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**School** – Jeff shared two topics that came up at the meeting. Heather Grams had distributed a handout on the accreditation plan. Currently, both our parish Constitution and bylaws are needed for the reaccreditation process. These are due June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Carole noted that St Coletta’s just recently went through accreditation and did quite well.

A welcoming Children letter will be included in the bulletin.

Maricolette requested that the Council address the school funding model quickly. Dillon moved to further study the St Sebastian tithing and/or tuition models, educating the parish on the models, and potentially completing a survey to assist in the decision process. Joann seconded the motion. Cathleen moved to create a work group to handle the task. Dillon seconded the motion. Jeff will take the funding model conversation back to the School committee for further review.

The St Sebastian student population for next year is currently estimate at 327 students.

**Strategic Planning**

Carole has been meeting with the various committees in an effort to solicit ideas to update the Strategic Plan and keep it current.

**Administrators Report –**

Nothing additional to report

**New business**

Eunice asked the Council to discuss recruitment of new Council Members for next year. Eunice offered to chair the search for new candidates and asked for suggestions to be sent to her as soon as possible. The terms for Cathleen Hoffman, Eunice Frieseke, and Jim Ewig will be ending this June. Lori asked all Council Members to consider candidates for recruitment.

This years’ “Spring into Service” event will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

Our annual Cabaret will be held on March 29<sup>th</sup> and March 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Next Meeting**

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Monday April 1st, 2019 at St Sebastian Parish.

The meeting adjourned at 08:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Ewig