

St Sebastian Pastoral Council Minutes
April 01, 2019

Location: St Sebastian

In attendance: Jeffrey Altenburg, Dillon Ambrose, Fr Larry Chapman, Michelle Hansen, Judy Hill, Lori Larch, Steve Ragatz, Edie Schwabe, JoAnn Stasiewicz, Maricolette Walsh, Margaret Wiemer, and Jim Ewig

Excused: Eunice Friesseke, Cathleen Hoffman

Lori called the meeting to order at 07:04PM.

Approval of Previous Minutes

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

Recommendation from Finance Council on creating ad hoc committee regarding parish funding

The School Committee revisited the question of changing from the current school funding model which includes tithing. This discussion has now grown to include how both the school and parish are funded. Fr Larry distributed a handout that may be used to give the group some guidelines and questions to consider as the topic is addressed.

Dillon moved to approve the creation of an ad hoc committee to further study the funding options. The committee will be composed using a "3-3-3-2" model. Each of the three Chairs of the Finance Council, Pastoral Council, and School Committee Chair will choose three people to participate on the committee, and an additional two staff members will attend in a non-voting/advisory role. The Council pondered several candidates. Shortly thereafter, Jeff seconded Dillon's motion. There was unanimous agreement among the Council members to move forward with the creation of the committee.

7:30-7:45 Jeff- School strategic plan update, etc.

A question was raised on the uniformity of how school and pastoral staff evaluations are being performed. It was felt that both staff both be evaluated using the same process. Each role will be evaluated using appropriate criteria, but the overall process for all staff will be the same. The school administration will evaluate the school staff and the pastor will evaluate the pastoral staff.

The idea for a Kid friendly mass will be forwarded to the Prayer and Worship Committee for further consideration. The Faith formation committee is also reviewing the idea.

Committee Reports

Finance – Maricolette updated the Council. Year to date, regular contributions are down approximately \$30,000. Payments on outstanding Pal receivables are down \$7,000. The Finance Council has passed the budget for the upcoming year. A few items to note are the new Development Director position is in the budget, there will be a 2% increase for school staff, and an art teacher position has been added.

The auction raised \$35,000

Faith Formation –

The **Human Concerns** – Edie stated the speaker, Debra Schneider, will present an overview session on Catholic Social Teachings on April 7th.

Prayer and Worship – Steve mentioned the last meeting was cancelled.

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Stewardship – Joann said the committee met last Wednesday. Katie Sanders was a guest. The committee discussed how it can effectively lead volunteering campaigns in the neighborhood. This may include working with the Washington Heights Neighborhood Association and St Catherine Parish.

This year's "Spring into Service" event will be held on May 11th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Carole is compiling a list of jobs to tackle. Parishioner volunteers will be recruited on and after the last April Mass and first May Mass.

As the committee looks forward, it will focus on events, education, volunteers and ministries. The Committee will reach out to other committee to obtain ideas and feedback.

A discussion ensued by the Council on a variety of ways that are most effective to communicate information to the parish.

School – Jeff reported that the St Sebastian student population for next year is currently estimate at 327 students.

Strategic Planning –

Nothing additional to report

Administrators Report –

Nothing additional to report

New business

Fr. Tom runs a consulting firm and had asked Michelle if he could do a presentation to the Pastoral Council. We will defer this request until the new pastor is on board.

Margaret added that a small committee has been meeting to plan Fr Larry's farewell reception. The reception will be held Saturday June 8th 5-8:30.

Personal reflections - shared if you choose to. "Our deliberations this evening helped further our Parish Mission by . . ."

Several Council members shared their reflections.

Next Meeting

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Monday May 13th, 2019 at 6:30pm at St Sebastian Parish and will include Mother of Good Counsel parish.

The meeting adjourned at 08:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Ewig