

St Sebastian Pastoral Council Minutes
January 7, 2019

Location: Mother of Good Counsel

In attendance: Jeffrey Altenburg, Dillon Ambrose, Fr. Larry Chapman, Michelle Hansen, Judy Hill, Cathleen Hoffman, Lori Larch, Edie Schwabe, JoAnn Stasiewicz, Maricolette Walsh, and Jim Ewig

Guest(s): Maria Melendez

Excused: Eunice Frieseke, Steven Ragatz, Margarete Wiemer

Lori called the meeting to order at 06:37PM.

Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was deferred until the Milwaukee Westside Catholic Parish cluster meeting which convened later that evening.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Jeff moved to approve the December minutes. Judy seconded the motion. There were no abstentions.

Lori noted that at least one representative of the Teosinte delegation will attend our February meeting. We will also have an Archdiocese representative from the Priest Placement Board in attendance to discuss our future pastoral needs.

Committee Reports

Finance –

Maricolette reported that work has started on the next budget.

Holly Rutenbeck, the Buildings and Grounds Chair, will be joining the January 17th Finance Council meeting. Holly will update the Council on her search for a contractor. The contractor will be tasked with our analyzing each building on campus to determine faults, failures, and areas of concern. The findings will be used to create a project priority list. The list will give the Finance Council a clearer picture into the extent of our future maintenance needs and costs. The approximate cost for the contractor is \$30,000.

Last year's eighth grade class gift to the school was a pair of water bottle filling stations. Potential locations for the filling stations are still being considered. The units also require electricity and plumbing, which will be a cost outlier. Once location and a source of funding has been solidified, the installation of the units can proceed.

Holly was able to negotiate with a contractor to reduce costs on our sidewalk project from \$10,000 to approximately \$7,000.

Faith Formation –

Cathleen stated the committee had met on December 11th

St Sebastian will host a Dynamic Catholic event on Saturday April 27th from 9:00AM until noon. Tickets will be sold for \$25. A "save the date" reminder will be placed in the bulletin. Since the event is open to everyone, Dillon felt this may be a good time to have information on St Sebastian readily available to the guests. This information would highlight and promote St Sebastian as well as welcome outsiders.

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The book titled *Joy of the Gospel*, which was written by Pope Francis, was distributed following the Christmas Masses. The demand was high, leaving very few copies at this time.

A dinner is being planned for the Young Adult Ministry group. The date is yet to be determined.

Cathleen shared that there is much sentiment that Amy Rebholz and Margaret Lee are doing a great job.

Human Concerns –

Edie stated that a joint meeting with the Faith Formation committee will be held in the near future.

Prayer and Worship – Steve submitted the prayer and worship notes, which were reviewed individually by Council members.

Stewardship – Joann reported the committee did not meet in December. A meal to welcome new parishioners is scheduled for Sunday February 10th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. The new parishioners will receive printed invitations that also include a hand written note. There were approximately thirty to forty new members last year. All Pastoral Council members, and Committee Chairs are asked to attend.

The “Spring into Action” campus cleanup event will be held on one of the first two Saturdays in May.

School –

Jeff stated the committee met on December 12th. Almost the entire meeting was focused on the proposed payment structure model.

The School open house is scheduled for Sunday, January 27th

Strategic Planning

Deferred due to lack of time.

Pastoral Council Congress Update

Deferred due to lack of time.

School Payment Model Review

Maria Melendez shared the good news that St Sebastian School was recently ranked 12th out of 400+ schools in Milwaukee land area. The ranking was accessed by the State of Wisconsin.

Maria then explained the proposed school funding model. The School Committee recently reviewed the St Sebastian fee structure and felt there is an opportunity to improve the current funding model. The proposal will attempt to more clearly define the fee structure as it pertains to both parishioner and non-parishioner school families. Maria defined “Parishioner” as an existing and active family in the parish. The model should also make St Sebastian more comparable with how other schools charge tuition. Maria distributed a handout that detailed the differences between the current and proposed models. The proposed model should also be easier to audit. The goal of the proposed model is to position St Sebastian as a vibrant and growing school. Another goal (or hope) is that St Sebastian will be more attractive to non-parishioners, who will then eventually join the parish.

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Maria asked the Council to consider and support the proposal. She also asked that if the Council has any concerns that they be shared as soon as possible. The intent is to have this model ready by the School Open House being held later this January.

Administrators Report –

Deferred due to lack of time.

New business

Deferred due to lack of time.

Next Meeting

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Monday February 4th, 2019 at 6:30pm at St Sebastian Parish.

The meeting adjourned at 08:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Ewig