

Minutes

St. Patrick Parish Pastoral Council

January 25, 2011

Present: Father Dan, Father Gene, Carrie Whitacre, Teresa Cameron, Joy Case, Nini Milbrath, Roger Pelzel, Shawn Schmidtknecht, Heidi Young

Also Present: Claire Zajac, Sam Cari, Mary Piasecki, Marg Wopat, Gail Kotoski, and Phyllis Koss

Absent: Ron Daulton, Terry Bogenhagen, Larry Huiras, Anjanette Conway, Cathy Smolinske, Brian Huffman

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Chair, Carrie Whitacre.

Prayer: The Gospel for 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Matthew 4:12-23 was read, reflected upon, and discussed.

1. The Minutes from 11/16/10 were approved.
2. Committee reports :
 - a. Liturgy
 - b. School
 - Mass during Catholic Schools week is at St. Patrick Church on Wednesday (2/2/11) All are welcome to attend
 - Bishop Peter was invited to visit at school – have not heard back
 - c. Faith Formation Larry was not able to be present - he was meeting with the Confirmation Retreat Team since Anjanette is on Maternity leave.
 - d. Stewardship - see #3 below "Update on Welcoming"
 - e. Social Concerns
 - Market event was dropped this year due to a number of things going on that weekend
 - Purple Tree will not be invited to the market event in the future
 - Want to support Rice Bowl more in the parish
 - Backpack program is going well
 - Many activities under Social concerns but have their own heads who just run with the programs (Sister Parish, H.O.M.E. Jail ministry, SOURCE
 - Marg was thanked for stepping up to take over administrative duties of the Social Concerns committee – they are trying to operate without an official chair but much has fallen to her. (Judy Freund also helps)
 - Marg was a guest speaker about Catholic social teaching in 8th gr. Religion. Mary Piasecki thanked her for speaking, but also for being an example of one involved in social concerns
 - f. PCCW
 - Fund for hospitality not well received by committees
 - It is used for general items (paper products, sugar, etc.)
 - PCCW - Funeral ministries use a greater percentage (make money from)
 - Should even out at end of year
 - g. Finance

- Spreadsheet showing a pattern of giving over 5 years
 - Income and level of giving has decreased
 - Special collections are included
 - Summary will be in bulletin shortly of first 6 months of fiscal year
3. Update on Welcoming / New Parishioner / registration /spreadsheet
 - a. Stewardship is doing registration of new parishioners on the 3rd Sunday of each month
 - b. 3 Families registered on the January Sunday plus one person took forms and left
 - c. Howard working on spreadsheet to keep track of the process
 - d. People mention how difficult it is to get to the parish during office hours – when the doors are open
 - e. Father Dan said Ellen will put something in the bulletin about registration forms are available on line
 4. Update on feasibility of Parish Data System
 - a. Larry is working on this
 - b. Larry is not available tonight so table till next meeting
 5. Update on Development Committee –Claire Zajac
 - a. The task force has transitioned to Development implementation
 - Lance Whitacre & Larry Mitchell have agreed to be co leaders
 - Ron Daulton rep from PC
 - Curt Carey from Finance
 - Mary Piasecki - School
 - Larry Huiras - FF
 - Kim Burns – school family
 - Dick Schmitz – parish at large
 - Working on foundational things
 - Move to specific tasks – job description

This was followed by a discussion of the physical plant assessment being reviewed by the Finance Committee with input from the Pastor

- Look at bldg/ grounds assessment to have a plan – two firms are being discussed to do the assessment at a cost of \$10,000 to \$15,000
 - There was discussion that Scott Holms & Steve Bates had talked about whether this was something either Scott, or Scott and Steve could do without outside help. Scott's work load is very heavy but this was something he was going to do personally not through his company. **This needs follow up**
 - Sam's recommendation: Use parish resources when necessary to save money before spending on outside resources.
 - The building and grounds assessment could be the collaborative effort of several men of the parish who have expertise in this field
6. Follow up on Mass attendance figures
 - a. Claire presented a graph showing comparison of numbers from the diocese, St. Bridget's, and St. Pat's
 - b. Figures across the diocese are generally going down as are the trends nationally
 - c. St. Pat's is at 70% of where we were when figures began being collected
 - d. Doesn't take into consideration the population growth

- e. What's going on at our parish – are we experiencing something different from diocese / St. B's / the whole country
 - f. Weekly church going across the country is down but our parish is down even more
 - g. St. B's is gaining in Mass attendance the numbers we are losing
 - h. Have to look at engagement of people not on just numbers
 - i. Obviously many non engaged people in our parish
 - j. Challenge is what are we going to do about it
 - k. Build on what makes the parish what it should be
 - l. Is there discussion on Superior diocesan level of viability?
 - Are conversations going on - how to welcome back those who have left
 - The diocesan viability study will not be out until 2012!
 - m. Long discussion about actual hours doors are open to church
 - Open on nights when there are meetings.
 - Father says the door is open every night till after adoration.
 - Has not been the experience of people at the meeting.
7. Meeting Schedule through June
- a. Discussion concerning meeting every month because meetings drag on and business does not get done
 - b. There is a need to tackle issues more in depth
 - c. When we met monthly one committee was spotlighted each month
 - Committee explained what they had been doing, what their goals were, looked forward to what was coming and how PC could assist in their work
 - d. Next month talk about actual needs to be accomplished
 - e. Perhaps reports quarterly?
 - f. Previous model – one person from each committee attended PC meeting
 - g. Sam's recommendations:
 - STAY ON TASK
 - Consistently too far afield
 - Monthly meetings are needed and people are willing to put in the time
 - h. Harder for Priest
 - i. Meeting could be over in 1 ½ hours
 - j. Parish Council meeting dates for rest of year:
 - February 22
 - March 22
 - May 24
 - June 28
8. Follow-up of Leadership Conference
- a. Henri Nouven book In the Name of Jesus
 - Father Gene, Claire, Terry
 - Date will be in March
 - All Parish Council members are encouraged to attend
 - b. Town hall / parish assessment
 - There will be a direct mailing to the parish the first week in February
 - Mailing will include survey for those no longer attending Mass at St. Pat's
 - The general parish survey will be available on line immediately when the letter goes out

- Copies of both were passed out, reviewed and survey for those no longer attending St. Pat's was revised to just include open ended questions
 - The following weekend paper surveys will be available for those without internet access
 - Priests will encourage all to take survey on line if possible
 - The following week there will be baskets to collect paper copies
 - March 20 – Town hall meeting
9. Pictorial Directory Update (Heidi Young)
- a. Directory didn't work out as a clean-up process for who is and who isn't a parish member
 - b. Jan 28 directories mailed
 - c. Those with pictures will receive a free directory
10. Fall Fest date for next year
- a. September 23, 24. 25
 - b. Keep same weekend from year to year
 - c. Roger will check for Community conflicts??
11. Elections
- a. Sub-committee:
 - Shawn, Carrie, Ron
 - Carrie going off
 - Father Dan appointed Nini to an extra term
 - Only need one new member
 - b. Elections will be May 15/16

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 9:21 PM

Next Meeting: February 22, 2011

Respectfully submitted, Phyllis Koss, recording secretary