

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday December 6, 2016

In Attendance: John Dickhaus (Chairperson), Brian Baurichter, Janet Davis, Sarah Holland, Paul Justice, Patty Pryor, Jeff Racic, Rev. Bill Stockelman, Chuck Cullen (Recording Secretary)

Absent: None

Guest: None

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairperson John Dickhaus.

Faith Formation: Chairman Dickhaus distributed the lyrics to a song (I Believe in Father Christmas) written by Greg Lake and Peter Sinfield and performed by the musical group Emerson, Lake and Palmer. He then began to play a video of the song performed by Greg Lake and other musicians at St. Bride's Church in London. Technical difficulties, however, prevented the playing of the video. Sarah Holland, fortunately, was able to play an audio of the performance on her cellular device. Chairperson Dickhaus then read a personal, Christmas-themed poem reflecting his relationship with members of the Pastoral Council.

Minutes: The minutes from the November 9, 2016 Pastoral Council were approved.

Campus Master Plan: Chairperson Dickhaus provided an update to the Council on the development of a campus master plan. He reported that the Executive Committee reviewed some preliminary plan options prepared by the firm SHP. While the presentation was valuable, he indicated that a more detailed breakdown of costs will be necessary to enable the Committee to make informed decisions as the planning process continues. Copies of the plans presented to the Executive Committee were viewed by the Pastoral Council members. These preliminary plans addressed some of the existing safety, accessibility, and educational shortfalls of the current campus.

The Council members began a discussion about costs. The cost to replace the entire existing school and make other desired improvements to the campus exceeded \$12.5M. It was generally agreed that this amount is not feasible for the parish. Other preliminary plans have a lower cost but maintain more of the existing campus. The members discussed some options to consider including a high school. The high school option would, however, need more discussion and would likely delay addressing more immediate needs of the parish. The consultants will present more-defined plans in early January. A parish forum will be scheduled afterwards to inform parishioners of the plan and give everyone an opportunity to provide input. Any fundraising will likely be at least two years in the future.

Fr. Bill advised the members that once the Executive Committee has completed their work, a presentation will be made to the Pastoral Council. If approved by the Council and the Pastor, the plan will then be presented to the Archdiocese for its approval. There are no assurances that the plan will become reality.

Jeff Racic suggested that the Council have a contingency plan should the expansion proposal not become a reality. Such a plan could include limiting admission of new students.

The next meeting of the Pastoral Council will be scheduled in January after the next meeting of the Executive Planning Committee.

Pastoral Region: Fr. Bill informed the members that he is scheduled to meet with Bishop Binzer and Fr. Schmidt on December 14 to discuss the assignment of a new priest for St. Bernadette and eventually for the Pastoral Region of St. Bernadette and St. Thomas More. A meeting for the parish could be scheduled during January.

Pastor's Corner: Fr. Bill handed out a draft sheet describing the attributes of the parish. This document, when finalized, will provide basic information to priests who may be interested in serving as the next Pastor of St. Bernadette. Father asked for any input from the members of Council regarding the document. Several members provided input for him to include (Grotto, facility listing, PRP, and others) in the document.

Parish Voice/New Business: No new business presented

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

**Upcoming meeting of the Pastoral Council
To Be Announced**

Approved: January 4, 2017