

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday June 7, 2018

In Attendance: Rev. Tim Ralston, John Dickhaus (Chairperson), Patty Pryor, Sarah Holland, Jeff Racic, Paul Justice, John Kelly, Christina Boss (Recording Secretary)

Absent:

Guest:

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

Faith Formation/Opening Prayer: Patty Pryor opened with prayer and a reading from 2 Chronicles 15:1-7. The group discussed their thoughts about this passage. Patty felt it had an uplifting message that God is there waiting for us to turn back to Him. She wondered if some of the current suffering in the world had to do with fewer families raising their children in the faith. Jeff mentioned that he has noticed a lack of young people at mass. He was concerned about this trend and wondered what it means for the future of the church. Paul shared that he sees our relationship with God much like our relationship with friends. If we do things they don't like or agree with, they won't be our friends anymore. You become who you associate with.

Minutes: The minutes from the May 9, 2018 Pastoral Council meeting were approved.

Save the Dates: The following dates should be included in the Sunday bulletin: Boosters Burgers & Beer is on July 22nd after 11:00 mass; the Parish Picnic is September 16th at 4:00.

Festival Updates: Jeff Racic provided an update on the festival raffle progress. Sponsorships secured so far include: Poochie's Place, Red Zone, Jimmy B's, and Mark Williams. Additional local businesses to ask were suggested by other council members. Major Raffle sales have reached about \$10,000: \$7400 from the school & \$2600 from the parish. Chairperson Dickhaus noted that we still need more volunteers. It is especially hard to find volunteers who are willing to take on the responsibility of coordinating specific parts of festival instead of just committing to a few hours during the weekend.

Finances: Chairperson Dickhaus presented a spreadsheet with monthly contribution trends from 2014-2017. The group noted that while 2015 and 2016 Sunday and Holy Day contributions totals were higher than 2014 and 2017, it was due mostly to large December contributions in both years.

SHP: Chairperson Dickhaus shared options for the bathroom replacement at the school with the council members. The bathrooms at the school will need to be replaced in the near future and there are a couple of options available. The first option is to gut the bathrooms and 2 classrooms in that hall. They would be replaced with new bathrooms and 4 classrooms. This would be Phase 1 of the master plan and would cost \$1.4-1.6 million. If this option were pursued, the funds would need to be secured by February the year of the work in order to complete the project during the summer break. Three-quarters of the money would need to be raised before starting work. Another option would be to just replace the bathrooms at a cost of about \$300-\$400K. It is not clear what the County would require in upgrades to the facility to meet current building codes, and this price does not include any additional upgrades that would be required by the County. At this time, we are not prepared to move forward with any option, and this is for informational purposes only.

School Updates: Chairperson Dickhaus shared some staff changes in the school next year. Mrs. Clark is leaving and Mr. Hoffman is going to part time. The school will hire a new science teacher to replace Mrs. Clark and another part time teacher to fill Mr. Hoffman's previous academic role. Enrollment is about 212 students next year for K-8. This is about where we've been the last couple of years.

Youth Ministry/Totus Tuus: Father Tim stated that the goal of the youth ministry program is to reach young people. The two new youth ministers introduced themselves at mass last week. They will be here for two years and will focus on developing programs for the junior high and high school students. The Totus Tuus program has about 40 participants signed up so far. Registrations are still coming in. Father Tim will attend the Steubenville Youth Conference with several high school students this summer. The conference will be held at Franciscan University in Steubenville. A group of about 600 students will attend from our Archdiocese. St. Bernadette Parish has combined with another local parish and will be sending about 16 people including students and chaperones.

Pastor's Cul-de-sac: Father Tim shared that John Kelly volunteered to be the St. Bernadette representative for the Catholic Rural Life Conference. John Kelly said he will attend his first meeting next Thursday.

New Business: Paul Justice asked the church would consider providing a valet type service for handicapped parishioners since the handicapped spots are not very close to the front door. Other parish council members had concerns about the liability of this type of service and thought it was not advisable.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

<p style="text-align: center;">Next Meeting Wednesday July 11, 2018 at 7:00 PM</p>
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Secretary Note: The July 11th meeting was moved to July 24th.

Approved: July 24, 2018