

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday September 6, 2017

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

Absent: Patty Pryor

Guest:

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairperson John Dickhaus.

Faith Formation/Opening Prayer: Paul Justice distributed a passage from the Book of Ezekiel (3:17-19). The reading suggests that we serve as a watchman. If we fail to act to prevent the wicked from their actions, then we will be responsible for their demise. If, however, we act to prevent the wicked, then the wicked shall perish and we shall be saved.

The members reflected upon the passage. Paul Justin began the discussion by pointing out that at mass, we ask forgiveness for what we have done and for what we have failed to do. Jeff Racic commented that he sometimes keeps to himself instead of responding to some Facebook posts. Sarah Holland said that speaking out can sometimes be perceived as being a hypocrite. Janet Davis added that praying for people brings them closer to God.

Minutes: The minutes from the July 5, 2017 Pastoral Council meeting were approved.

Pastoral Council Elections: Chairperson Dickhaus discussed the current schedule for elections for Pastoral Council. Members volunteered to distributed nomination forms at masses during the weekend of September 9th-10th. Jeff Racic will then prepare a list of nominees, divide the names, and distributed the names to the members who will then contact the nominees.

Parish Picnic: Chairperson Dickhaus reminded the members of the Parish picnic to be held on Sunday September 17 at 4:00 PM. The members then volunteered to assist with the acquisition of items and/or provide assistance during the picnic.

School Update: Chairman Dickhaus informed the members that the current school enrollment is 218, the same number as last year. Pre-school, however, has increased to 41 children.

Festival Update: Chairperson Dickhaus reported that the recent Parish festival grossed over \$200,000. Expenses are still being paid to vendors so the net revenue is not yet known. The grand raffle for a car or \$20,000 this year generated more net revenue than previous raffles. The hot weather on Sunday likely caused a decline in attendance that day. Chairperson Dickhaus did state that fewer volunteers worked this year and that this could become a real problem in the future.

Ministry Recruitment: Sarah Holland inquired about reviving the Ministry Fair/Recruitment. This was an annual event for several years. The members agreed to stage that activity since the parish has many new members since the last Fair was held. Sarah Holland agreed to contact the ministry leaders to inform them of the event. Fr. Tim suggested the weekend of November 11th-12th (Stewardship Weekend) and the members concurred on that date.

During that ministry discussion, Fr. Tim informed the members that he has been personally visiting new parishioners and bringing them a welcome package. The members supported that initiative but expressed a concern that it cannot be sustained in the long run.

New Business: Jeff Racic asked about a festival follow-up meeting. Chairperson Dickhaus responded that there are no plans for such a meeting now but that there may be one after the final financial results are known.

Patty Pryor (via e-mail) informed the members that the parishioner who asked about the missing minutes was very appreciative of how quickly the matter was resolved. Chairman Dickhaus also reported that the two other issues reported by Patty Pryor at the last meeting were also addressed.

Pastor's Corner: Fr. Tim informed the members that:

- There will be a blessing of the catechist on September 17th at the 11:00 AM mass.
- A box has been placed in the Gathering Space for parishioners to place prayer intentions for Fr. Tim to use on his upcoming trip to several holy shrines (Fatima, Lourdes).
- The RCIA program will commence on September 20.
- A weekend retreat for women will take place on September 23-24.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

<p style="text-align: center;">Next Meeting Wednesday October 11, 2017</p>
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Approved: October 11, 2017