



Parish Pastoral Council - Meeting Minutes

Date: April 9, 2019
Time: 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Location: St John Neumann
Attendees:

- **Present:** Debbie Andrews, Mickey Custodio, Rick Durig, Fr. Doug Ebert, Dave Gerken (Trustee), Mary Hoffman, Mike Meirink, Patricia Ogbeide-Ihama, Robert Peterson, Michaela Willer, Sharon McGinnes (Staff – Shared Ministry and Communion)
 - **Absent:** Tom Mahowald (Finance Council)
 - **Minutes:** Submitted by Mary Hoffman, Secretary
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Call to order: 7:00pm by Rick Durig

Mission Statement and Prayer: Mike Meirink

Pastor's Report: Fr. Doug

- *State of the Parish:* Fr. Doug reported that attendance continues to be stable. Collections are stable as well, but still not reaching projections.
- *Holy Week:* Fr. Doug said that the focus and preparation now is on Holy Week.
- *Volunteer Appreciation Event:* This will take place in the fall. It will be an agenda item at the Parish Pastoral Council August Retreat.

Deanery Council Report: Bob Peterson

- Bob Peterson volunteered and was appointed to the lay advisory board to the archdiocese. Archbishop Hebda is committed to lay leadership within the diocese. To this end, he has created a council for each deanery within the diocese.
 - Bob reported that the first meeting took place two weeks ago. St. John Neumann is in Deanery 8. (There are 15 deaneries within the archdiocese.) A Parish Pastoral Council member from each parish is part of this lay advisory board. In the future, lay members from the Deanery Councils will be chosen to serve on the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council.
 - The Advisory Board is consultative to the archdiocese. It is part of an effort to encourage people within the parishes to evangelize and spread the Kingdom of God. It also will focus on the healing process needed as a result of the abuse scandals within the church.

Stewardship: Patricia Ogbeide-Ihama

- Patricia shared ideas for increasing participation and membership within the parish, increasing revenue, and helping parishioners in search of employment. Discussion took place regarding these suggestions. Patricia will bring these ideas forward to the appropriate committees/council for further discussion (Finance Council, Family and Community Life Committee and Justice and Charity Committee).

Finance Council Report: Michaela Willer

- Michaela reported that collections are stable and increasing slightly, but still not at the level it should be. As of April 7, our fiscal YTD collections are 1.9% below budget expectations.
- The Finance Council is beginning work on the budget for next year. They are in the process of estimating how our parish will end its fiscal year (6/30/2019) and approving next year's budget. Due to sound budgeting, the parish is operating in the black. In the future, some programs may need to be reduced and some staff positions will remain unfilled if revenue does not improve. However, we are still looking to fill the youth minister position.

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Elections

- Discernment and elections for new Parish Pastoral Council members will begin at the end of April. There will be both email blasts and bulletin announcements for parishioners to read.
 - As in past years, parishioners will nominate potential candidates and place those nominations in a box located in the gathering space. Forms will be available by the boxes and in the pews on a designated weekend in May. The planned communication schedule is:
 - April 27/28: First email blast and bulletin announcement about upcoming election process. This will be continued the weekends of May 4/5 and May 11/12. Also, emails will be sent to committee chairs via PPC liaisons for each committee.
 - May 11/12: Ballots placed in pews and an announcement made from ambo. PPC members will be available after Mass to answer questions.
 - May 15: Last day to submit nominations
 - May 17- 21: Letters sent to nominees/RSVP's due back by May 30th if attending discernment meeting
 - June 3 (Monday): Discernment meeting @ 7pm
 - Fr. Doug discussed the possibility of having elections take place every two years, rather than every year. This will be another agenda item at the August retreat.

Families Moving Forward: Debbie Andrews

- Debbie shared the changes that are taking place with Families Moving Forward. Initially, our parish would host three or four families. Because of the role of Hennepin County, families can now opt to stay in a hotel instead of an alternate shelter (such as a church). Consequently, we may one get one, maybe two, families.
- A motion was made in April to suspend our commitment for the 2020 year and re-assess. SJN is still hosting families in June, however.
- Debbie noted that there are other ways that we can still be involved in this endeavor. Specific mention was given to Matrix Housing Services program. This program has temporary shelters in Dakota Country throughout the year.

Stewardship Committee Update: Sharon McGinnes and Rick Durig

- Sharon gave an update on this ad hoc (temporary) stewardship committee, along with the purpose and outcome of true stewardship within a parish. Stewardship is all encompassing and is a way of life, embedded into the culture of the parish.
- Both Sharon and Rick discussed the four pillars of stewardship – Prayer, hospitality, formation and service. When these four pillars are in place, prayer, participation and generosity is increased.
- As this was an ad hoc committee, the stewardship initiative will now transfer to the Parish Pastoral Council. As Goals and Objectives are set by the PPC at the August retreat, the four pillars of stewardship will be embedded within those goals. Rick stressed that these four pillars should permeate everything we do as a Council and as a parish.

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Currently Anticipated June Agenda Items

- Pastor's Report
- Introduction of new PPC Members/Feedback from current and new members regarding process
- August Retreat – set time/location/agenda items
- Finance Council Update
- Committee Updates

Next Meetings:

- Tuesday, May 14, 2019 – Joint Council/Committee Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- Tuesday, June 11, 2019 – Parish Pastoral Council meeting @ 7:00 pm