

March 16, 2016 Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair Mary Linn. Opening prayer read.

Members Present: Patty Linn, Tony Erba, Fr. Peter Patrick Kimani, John Hubbard, Patti Van Kampen, Mary Johnston, Beth Matkom, Virginia Rader, Jon Gabik, Amanda Baltz, Mary Linn

Trustees present: Dave Schultz, Bob Kowalsky and Tom Dean

Not Present: Nadine Weske, Fr. Dennis Dirkx, Rozanne Schmidlein

Proceedings:

- February 2016 minutes were approved with the following amendment: The Pastor, with guidance from the Pastoral Council, will make the final decision on the mass schedule.
- The minutes will be published to the Parish website and a notice will be placed in the bulletin. A copy can be made available to any parishioner who cannot access the website.
- Tom Dean reported on SR Finances. Collection is running \$20,000 ahead of budget. There is an uptick in mass attendance over the last two months that may account for the collection increase. The gym floor has water damage and may cost as much as \$100,000 to replace. This is the high estimate. The plan is to pay for this project with \$30,000 from Athletic Association, \$31,000 raised at the auction, \$10,000 from Home and School Fund, \$15,000 from individual donors, and the remaining \$5,000 to \$10,000 (if cost run high) from the School Society Reserve. SR needs three roofs replaces at an estimated cost of \$65,000. The school is having an electrical update. The fixtures require a light bulb that is no longer produced. We are able to relamp the fixtures to save money. Enrollment trend is down. We have 42 graduating 8th grade students (middle school tuition is higher than the grade school tuition) and an estimated 16 entering k4. We expect a big tuition hit. Currently our tuition is the highest in the district. Finance Council is working on a plan to meet this deficit. It may have to include a tuition increase.
- Dave Schulz reported on HF Finances. HF collections are ahead of budget. The Fish Fry has been very well attended. A report on the Fish Fry revenue was requested. The auction results were not in, but was estimated to be in the \$125,000 range. The School budget is similar to last year with an estimated 201 students. They expect a 4 % tuition increase. HF finance is working out the amount of Parish support to the school for the upcoming year.
- A question regarding Religious Education funding was asked. There is a lack of clarity in how many students are participating and how the support of the program is shared between the two Parishes. SR expected to enroll 100 students, but only enrolled 63. HF dropped from 277 to 215 students. When we combined the programs did we have input from the parishioners? SR Parish funds religious education at the same level as the school. Pastoral Council is asking for hard data: #of students in the program, # of students who could be in the program, How do we communicate our programs, what kind of follow up do we have with students in our parishes who are not using the program. It was decided to have Gail DeFrancisco come in to report. We would like to explore why we had the drop in students and access if any changes need to be made in how we run the program.
- Pastor's Report given by Fr. Peter Patrick. Holy Week mass schedule: Holy Thursday SR 7 pm, Good Friday SR 1:00 pm HF 3 pm. Vigil on Saturday HF 7:45 pm. Father asked that we invite people to come. There is a lot of tension among the priests as the new assignments are discussed. The young priests are being asked to take on the Pastor role much earlier in their priestly life. They need more guidance on how to govern. The long term goal is to train more

pastoral administrators. There is concern that the priest will have less interaction with the people. A balance will need to be worked out.

- New member discernment was discussed. SR will need two pastoral council representatives, HF is in an unusual circumstance since two members joined recently to replace some early departures. We would still like to advertise at HF parish but hope that the two newest members could stay on for a full two years. John Gabik and Amanda Baltz will work on getting announcements out at HF and John Hubbard will work on SR recruitment.
- A picture of the Council will be taken by Beth Manley. The website at Holy Family will include the chair's email but not phone numbers. It will include all committee chairs: building and grounds, Stewardship, Pastoral Council, Formation, etc.
- A letter to the parishioners regarding the mass times will be reworked and cosigned by Pastors and the Council.
- Worship Committee Report by John Hubbard SR. The Holy Water Fonts will remain filled until Good Friday. In the past, the water had been removed during lent. Worship committee is considering moving the gifts to the back of church where the ushers can manage it better. There is concern that the people who sit in the back of church may be reluctant to bring the gifts forward and that there is a lack of space in the back. John will bring these concerns back to the Worship Committee at their next meeting.
- A strategic plan for Parish Council needs to be discussed. Joan F. will be asked to facilitate this discussion. We need to plan for better communication, data collection, Stewardship programs, mass attendance and participation, volunteer recruitment, engagement of new parishioners, forming lay leaders, improving the relationship between the staff and the volunteers, helping staff grow in their jobs by setting goals, and discuss and plan for the gap in adult formation.
- 8:30 Closing Prayer

Minutes submitted by Patty Linn