

Minutes of Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

September 20, 2018

Present: Fr. David Trask, Sharon Miller, Kathy Schreiber, Daniel Steinacker, Lori Taylor
Absent: Deacon Thomas Daw, Linda Butler, Jackie Findish, Susan Hanko, Kathy Gulish (secretary)

Fr. Trask led the formation prayer at the beginning of the meeting.

MINUTES: The minutes from the May meeting were approved as submitted.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

a. Transitioning to pastor of two parishes

Fr. Trask remarked that the question most commonly asked of him is how he is doing as he has transitioned to his new role of being pastor to two parishes. He said that his greatest challenge is not being able to be on-site at both parishes all the time. Therefore, Fr. Trask recommends that parishioners contact him by cell phone or email.

b. Switching to LED lights

Fr. Trask reported that he had met with a representative of Oberlin Power who recommended that we switch to LED lights. Oberlin Power would give us rebates on our purchases. Dan requested that his son be allowed to submit a bid for the lights from their Ace Hardware business as he believed they could offer a very good price.

c. Communication

Fr. Trask asked that Parish Council be a source of communication and feedback.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Ministry Fair

It was proposed that the Ministry Fair be held after each Mass on Nov. 10 and 11 as those dates coincide with coffee hour. Emails announcing the dates for the Ministry Fair will be sent to the various ministries, but it was also suggested that Parish Council members should try to discuss the Ministry Fair personally with those groups to which they belong as well as any others with which they have contact.

b. Oberlin Family Fun Fair

Sacred Heart participated in the Oberlin Family Fun Fair on Aug. 4, 2018. There was a good turnout of parishioners to man the tables as volunteers reported for their shifts throughout the day. There were a number of pamphlets about the Catholic faith available for people to browse and take, and visitors could enjoy a game of corn hole or plinko to win a small prize. We were in a new location this year, on the grounds of the New Union Center for the Arts, and although it was shady and an improvement from last year, it was also removed from the main pedestrian traffic of the sidewalk. Volunteers positioned themselves near the sidewalk to invite people to come into the yard area to look at the literature and play the games.

c. Recognition of Sue and Jack Kubicki for service to Family Promise
Parish Council will send a letter of appreciation to Sue and Jack Kubicki for their work and dedication to Family Promise.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Parish Council discernment process

Per the by-laws of Parish Council, new members are selected to fill three-year terms through a nomination and discernment process. This year, there are two seats that will need to be filled for a new term commencing January, 2019. The first step in the process is for parishioners to have an opportunity to meet with Parish Council members to ask questions and to learn more about the duties and responsibilities of becoming a council member. An announcement regarding the process will be placed in the bulletin beginning September 29/30. Council members will be available after Mass on the weekends of October 6/7 and October 13/14. Names for potential Council members may be submitted either through self-nomination or through nomination from another parishioner who believes a candidate exhibits qualities that would be advantageous to Parish Council.

b. Welcoming new parishioners

Sharon brought up a concern about being more welcoming to new parishioners. She cited an example of a couple who joined another parish after attending Sacred Heart for a month, during which they felt no one really made welcoming overtures or contact with them. The question was posed as to how we could become more welcoming. It was suggested that the ushers could possibly ask people if they are new to the parish and, if so, introduce them to parishioners standing by to welcome them. It was also suggested, during this discussion, that the church directory needs to be updated, with the changes in personnel that have occurred and the influx of new parishioners as well as those who have left the parish. If the people in the example that Sharon cited agree, she will ask them how the other parish made them feel more welcome.

c. Council meeting at August picnic

It was suggested that Parish Council should have a brief, casual meeting at the annual cookout in August just to take stock of any issues that are in need of discussion at the September meeting.

d. Elimination of individual, spoken petitions at Mass

Fr. Trask and Spiritual Life committee have discussed the elimination of the individual, spoken petitions at Mass. Liturgical changes in 2012 addressed this issue, and a handout will be included in the September 22/23 bulletin explaining the impact. The Petition Book is to be the focus for all intentions, and petitioners will be asked if their intentions may be included on the parish website so that all parishioners may offer prayers for those requesting them.

e. Parish dinners

A request was made that parish dinners be held on Sundays rather than just on Saturday evenings.

f. Picnic tables and potential construction of a pavilion

There was a discussion regarding the picnic tables we already have and the possibility of constructing a new pavilion. The main points that were discussed were:

- 1) How tight the present space is; however, Fr. Trask said it could be expanded.
- 2) The need for this space to be accessible to those who have difficulty walking.
- 3) Possible construction of a new pavilion.
- 4) Protecting and preserving the current picnic tables, which were donated and finished by parishioners.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Finance:**

Fr. Trask offered handouts of the financial statement, and Council members commented that the new roof for the education building was the “big ticket” item. Fr. Trask has worked with one contractor who only does flat roofs and will invite that company to participate in the bidding process.

- **IHN:**

Kathy reported that Sue Kubicki had sent the text of a letter to be approved by Parish Council which notifies Family Promise of Lorain County that Sacred Heart will no longer be hosting families in the program. Lori Taylor submitted a copy of the letter and explained that Family Promise has shut down for now due to an absence of staff and a pending audit. The Board of Directors of Family Promise has asked for prayers while they decide how to proceed.

- **LIFT:**

Dan reported that meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month and that they are discussing excerpts from *Circle of Catholic Women*.

- **PSR:**

Fr. Trask reported that confessions are scheduled for October 14 and 28.

- **Social Programming:**

- **Spiritual Life:**

Fr. Trask reported that Fr. Stala will do the mission on March 10-12.

- **Quarterly Reports:**

- **Newsletter**

Sharon reported that the Fall edition should be out in the next few days.

- **Parish nursing program**

- **Sunshine**

Kathy reported that cards have been sent out to parishioners.

The next meeting of Parish Pastoral Council will be October 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the education building.

Formation prayer: Dan Steinacker