

Minutes of Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

November 15, 2018

Present: Fr. David Trask, Linda Butler, Sharon Miller, Daniel Steinacker, Lori Taylor
Kathy Gulish (secretary)

Absent: Deacon Tom Daw, Jackie Findish, Susan Hanko, Kathy Schreiber

Linda led the formation prayer at the beginning of the meeting.

MINUTES: The minutes from the October meeting were approved as submitted the second time with the correction to the transaction fee.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

a. Electronic donation

Parishioners will have the option to submit their donations electronically rather than using the envelopes. Father Trask recommended that Parish Council members visit the electronic site in case parishioners ask them questions about it. Father said that an account can be set up without actually setting up a donation schedule, and that might help members familiarize themselves with the system even if they do not plan to use the electronic option. Father also passed out a handout on using the electronic donation system.

b. Letter from Bishop Perez

Father Trask shared that Bishop Perez had recently written a pastoral letter on the issues that had been at the forefront for the Catholic Church recently. Father commented on how well the bishop had expressed the concerns and thought that the letter should be shared with parishioners. Father handed out a copy to Council members and said that a copy will be in the bulletin as well as on the parish website.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Ministry Fair

Council members briefly reviewed the recent Ministry Fair. The consensus was that it seemed to be nicely attended on Sunday but more sparsely attended after Saturday's Mass. The Ministry Fair was held in conjunction with coffee hours, and it was pointed out that, in general, Saturday's coffee hours are less well attended than the ones held on Sundays so attendance at the Ministry Fair seemed to fall in line with that trend. Linda shared that she had gotten comments that September might be a better time to hold a Ministry Fair as PSR would not yet have begun. Dan suggested that to attract more people to the fair, perhaps food could be served, such as pizza after Saturday's Mass and Father suggested pancakes after Sunday's Mass. A brief survey will be sent out to the ministries that participated to get their opinions regarding the fair and suggestions for future fairs.

b. Parish Directory

The format for a new parish directory was discussed, and the consensus was that a photo directory, rather than one that just listed names and contact information, was most helpful. Father said that Life Touch had already contacted him regarding a directory. Lori volunteered to work with Father and Deacon Tom in contacting Life Touch and planning for a new directory. There was some discussion about the last time the photographers had been here and how things had gotten backed-up at times. Lori commented that despite some inconveniences when there were walk-ins or larger groups having individuals photographed, she believed that we needed to make the effort to accommodate people as much as possible to get photographed. Some solutions to alleviate the backlog for next time were discussed, such as asking the photographers to block out time periodically that would allow them to catch up if they got behind in the schedule.

c. Greetings before Mass

As part of a continuing discussion regarding ways to be welcoming and encourage more interaction among attendees at Mass, it was suggested that we might initiate something such as a “turn and greet your neighbor” at some point during Mass. Father indicated that it would be fine to do for a short term, but he was not sure it was something that needed to be continued week after week. Father suggested that Advent might be a good time to include a neighborly greeting as it would work into the message that Christ is among us. Council also discussed the use of the Transitions Board to showcase new parishioners.

d. Agenda and posting of Parish Council minutes

Linda had posted the agenda for this meeting but inquired as to how long it should remain on the board. Father suggested that it could be taken down after the meeting and then the newly approved minutes (from the previous month’s meeting) could be posted in place of the agenda. When the agenda for the next month is ready, the minutes could be taken down and replaced with the agenda, thus creating a rotating cycle. It was decided that since the Council chairperson creates the agenda, he/she would post both the agenda and the newly approved minutes so that there would be continuity in having one or the other on the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Parish Council Discernment Process

Kathy Carpenter and Jim Schultis were selected to fill the two seats on Council that will be vacated by Linda Butler and Susan Hanko at the end of December, 2018. The new term for Kathy and Jim will commence January, 2019 and run through December, 2021.

b. Parish Council Christmas gathering

Father suggested holding the annual Christmas gathering after Dec. 25, when we, as Catholics, are in the midst of our Christmas celebration. It was decided to have our gathering on December 27, after Mass, at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Newly selected members will be invited, and “plus1s” are welcome.

c. Key card entry

Father reported that the new sacristy door, with a key card entry, has been installed. Father will be trained on using the key cards, and then they will be distributed to those who need access. Father explained that there will be a certain time frame each day during which the key cards will be active. The key card will unlock the door, turn off the alarm, and then rearm the system when one leaves the church.

d. Adoration

Dan inquired if we have ever had 24 hour adoration. Father commented that he would like to get back to having weekly adoration. He explained that it had been sparsely attended in the past, but Spiritual Life has been discussing revising it.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Finance:**

Finance Council also met today, and Father reported that a financial comparison of this year and last year showed a difference of only a couple hundred dollars. Sacred Heart continues to operate in the black. Their next meeting will be in February.

- **LIFT:**

Lori reported that LIFT is continuing discussion of the book they have been reading.

- **PSR:**

Father reported that the students have completed the first round of confessions and will participate in confession again in March. Father indicated that this will hopefully help the students get used to the idea of going to confession on a regular basis.

- **Spiritual Life:**

Susan sent a copy of the minutes from Spiritual Life's last meeting:

The 2019 parish mission will again be with Fr. Stalla, as he presents "Continuing Conversion." The program will begin on Sunday, March 10 at 2:00 p.m. and then continue on Monday and Tuesday, March 11 and 12, at 7:00 p.m.

The Life in the Spirit seminar will begin on Oct. 3. Fourteen people are registered already, representing a mix from Sacred Heart, St. Joe's, Nativity, and St. Pat's. It will last 7 weeks, with a speaker each week followed by small group discussions. Dolores Bean has organized Sacred Heart to participate in a nationwide praying of the rosary on Saturday, Oct. 13 at noon as part of the feast of Our Lady of Fatima and the Miracle of the Sun. It will be held outside unless inclement weather forces it indoors.

- **Quarterly Reports:**

- **Newsletter**

The newsletter is proofed and will be sent for printing soon. The goal is to get it out the first week of December.

The next meeting of Parish Pastoral Council will be December 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory for our annual Christmas gathering.

Formation prayer: Susan