

Minutes of Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

February 19, 2015

Parish Council: Fr. Robert Cole, Deacon Thomas Daw, Chad Grude, Carrie Kubicki, Tracy Leverknight, Connie Loflin, Maria Mutnansky, Cindy Sanders, Jack Secrist, Carrol Wilhelm Kathy Gulish (secretary)

Absent: None

Jack Secrist led the formation prayer at the beginning of the meeting.

MINUTES: The minutes from the January meeting were approved with the following amendments:

Under Pastor's report: We will have to put in a sidewalk across the front of our entire property, not just in front of the rectory.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

a. Update on sale of the rectory and new construction

The sale of the current rectory is still with the Diocesan legal office. The rectory and the land that will be sold with it had to be re-deeded as a separate property. Once that deed is rewritten, we can continue with the sale of the rectory.

Some parishioners had raised concerns regarding the cost of construction of the new rectory and parish office. Father Cole suggested that the floor plan, with a breakdown of construction costs for the public/administrative areas and for the private/residential areas, be provided to parishioners. Father also suggested holding a meeting after each Mass the weekend of March 21/22 at which he and Deacon Tom would be available so parishioners could ask questions regarding the floor plans and costs. Father Cole showed Council the proposed floor plan with a cost breakdown. Deacon Tom pointed out that storage space was needed because we will lose storage space with the loss of the current rectory. Cindy recommended that the living room space should perhaps be designated as semi-private because it will be used several times a year for meetings and consultations. The residential area is not designed to be ADA compliant, but the office and common areas will be handicapped accessible.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. IHN Dates

We will host IHN the weeks of July 5-12, August 23-30, and November 22-29. We have already hosted the week of February 8th.

b. Rebuilt

Parish Council will meet on April 9 at 7:00 pm in the education building to discuss the book Rebuilt. Parish Council and Spiritual Life Committee have both read the book and plan to get together eventually to discuss some of the topics presented in the book. However, it was felt that Council needed to have an opportunity to meet separately first to share thoughts and ideas amongst its members. Father Cole reiterated that the plan of action followed by the church in the

book is not a blueprint for what our parish needs to do, but rather it is merely a tool with which to examine some of the principles and universal issues that might be applicable to our parish. Cindy suggested that there also should be a mechanism in place to gather input from parishioners as to what issues they feel need to be addressed. There were multiple suggestions as to ways that we might garner and incorporate ideas from parishioners. Father Cole also talked about needing to have some type of principles or mission statement with which we might connect all of the groups within our parish.

c. Election Process

A number of ideas were shared as to ways that other parishes select membership to parish council. Although some churches follow a procedure similar to ours, others use some type of discernment process, interviews, or appointment by the priest. After much discussion, it was decided to form a small committee to work on a plan for nominating people to Council. Cindy Sanders, Chad Grude, Maria Mutnansky, and Tracy Leverknight will work on it and hope to have something in place prior to Council adjourning for the summer.

d. Bags for the food pantry

Council had previously discussed the idea of having food bags readily available for parishioners to take with them, fill up, and return for the benefit of our food pantry. A logo has been created and the idea was to put it on the food bags so that it would serve as a visual reminder and statement of what we, as a parish, are doing. The cost of this proposed project was discussed as well as some alternate suggestions. Cindy and Kathy had gotten information on some possible types of food bags and shared what they had found. Discussion on this topic will continue in the future.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Stations of the Cross

Council will lead Stations of the Cross on March 20. Council members are asked to be at the church by 7:15 to organize.

b. Chili Cook-Off

LIFT is sponsoring a Chili Cook-Off on April 18 after Mass (6:00 – approximately 8:00). Tracy emailed all the groups listed in our ministries pamphlet and asked them to make chili for the cook-off. Father Cole and Deacon Tom said that they would also each make chili. Carrie will represent Parish Council in making chili. Tasting tickets will be \$5 per person or \$10 per family. There will also be hot dogs, and parishioners will be asked to bring desserts.

c. Discussion of having a Children's Missal and BINGO

Several parishioners have asked if there could be a children's missal available. Cindy has ordered a couple of samples. Father Cole requested that she give the information to him once she receives it.

A parishioner had asked about having BINGO on a regular basis. However, Father did not want to initiate using BINGO as a fundraiser.

d. Calendar updates

Tracy will update and redo as necessary the process for putting together the Parish picnic. We will need to begin work on setting up the picnic at the next meeting.

e. Cleaning ministry

Maria suggested starting a cleaning ministry – a group that would clean in the church as needed on a regular basis, perhaps once a month or several times a year. Cindy suggested putting something in the bulletin to see if people might be interested in signing up, and Maria will chair the project.

f. Pews

Carrol pointed out that the veneer on some of the pews is peeling and has the potential to cause splinters. Father Cole and Deacon Tom will check into it.

g. Cleanliness of the kitchen

Maria brought up that, at times, the kitchen appears that it is not being kept as clean as it should. A suggestion was to create a list of what needs to be done to keep the kitchen clean, and then whatever group uses it would be responsible for cleaning it. Members of Peace and Justice Committee had originally volunteered to stop in on Mondays each week to make sure that everything was clean, and Father Cole will check with them to see if anyone is still able to do that.

h. Checking on parishioners who are “missing” from Mass

Carrol raised a concern regarding checking on parishioners who may be ill or for some reason no longer able to attend Mass. There was discussion on calling parishioners to check on them and on putting a type of Pray For You list in the bulletin for those who are ill. Chad suggested that, rather than setting up anything formal, Parish Council and perhaps Spiritual Life might take ownership of this in establishing a caring community. Cindy suggested putting something in the bulletin regarding doing this.

i. Golf Outing

Chad proposed putting together a Sacred Heart golf outing, possibly in September, to support Lorain County Catholic Charities. Chad will organize it.

j. Name for Cry Room/Family Room

Deacon Tom asked about giving the new cry room/family room a formal name so that a sign could be put up designating the room. He asked Council members to think about it and email him with suggestions. At this point, the consensus seemed to be to refer to it as a cry room.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

1. Finance: (Fr. Cole)

The Finance Committee had met the previous week and will meet in another 3 months, if not sooner.

2. IHN: (Connie)

Lois Pozega, Executive Director of Family Promise, officially announced in a letter that Family Promise would be purchasing the Sacred Heart rectory. She expressed her gratitude for those who have shared in the mission of giving homeless families independence and for those who "believed in my dream of taking Family Promise of Lorain County to the next level."

3. PSR: (Chad)

- Three boys and one girl will participate in the Reconciliation retreat on Feb. 21.
- PSR's Lenten project is "In the footsteps of our Savior."
- There has been good attendance at PSR.

4. Peace and Justice Committee: (Jack)

- The SEPA dinner on Feb. 14 was well attended despite bad weather.
- Santa Elana's church kitchen has been progressing, with our help. They sent a picture and letter of thanks.
- Peace and Justice is holding a weekly book discussion group of 12 Steps to Compassion on Thursdays at 11:00 am.
- The prayer for each station of the Lenten Stations of the Cross is being revised.
- Four bags of donated winter clothing were delivered to Lorain County Catholic Charities.

5. Social Programming: (Maria)

There will be a fish fry on March 20 and March 27. Tickets may be purchased soon, and carryouts will be available.

6. Spiritual Life: (Chad)

There is no report at this time.

7. Sunshine Committee: (Jack)

There is no report at this time.

8. Youth Group: (Carrie)

- Youth group made no-sew welcome blankets for the children in IHN. (It was mentioned that other groups are also making the no-sew blankets.)
- Youth group will do Stations of the Cross on March 6.

The next meeting of Parish Pastoral Council will be March 19 at 7:00 pm in the education building.
Formation Prayer: Connie