

Minutes of Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

March 17, 2016

Parish Council: Fr. Robert Cole, Linda Butler, Susan Hanko, Jack Kubicki, Jr., Connie Loflin, Maria Mutnansky, Jack Secrist, Michael Todhunter, Carrol Wilhelm

Kathy Gulish (secretary)

Absent: Deacon Tom Daw

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

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

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Father Cole indicated that the topics he had to report on would be covered under Old or New Business.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Parish nursing program update

Our parish nursing program is set to begin the weekend of April 9 and 10, after both Masses, by offering blood pressure checks and glucose screenings. Doris Jankovits and Pat Forthofer, both RNs, will be in charge of the program. The plan is to have the dates of the parish nursing program coincide with coffee hour, although it will generally be held after only one Mass. Since this is the first time, we will offer it after both just to get started. The next date will be May 15, with further dates likely to be scheduled for the fall. The screenings will be conducted in one of the rooms in the education building. Parishioners who wish to take advantage of the service will need to sign a release form, and one of our RNs will be present to advise parishioners in case of abnormal readings. The records of results will be kept on file by Mercy, and if there is an abnormal reading, a letter will be sent to that person as well as to his/her physician. If a parishioner does not have a family doctor, Mercy can assist with connecting to one of their physicians.

b. Newsletter update

There will be a meeting on April 5 for any parishioners interested in writing for the newsletter. Several people have already expressed interest, and there will be a notice in the bulletin regarding the meeting.

c. Facility Advisory Committee update

Father Cole reported that Ted Chmura, Peggi Ignagni, and possibly Cindy Sanders have agreed to be on the committee. Father plans to meet with the committee soon to do a walk-around of the facilities to begin putting together a list of what might need to be done.

d. Parish library update

A new person needs to be selected to be in charge of the library. Father felt that it should not be a time-consuming job; he said that the library really just needs to be organized a bit more, shelves labeled by topic, and books sorted to the

appropriate topic. Additionally, it would be necessary every few months to just go through and make sure books were put back in their proper place. Although there had been some discussion of trying to find a different location for the library, it seems that it will need to remain in the sacristy as that is the most accessible location for the majority of parishioners. Susan suggested that something be put in the bulletin about the library to remind parishioners that it is there for their use.

e. Church cleaning update

Father met with Maria and Jack K. to go over a list of items that needed to be addressed. There will be a cleaning session on Tuesday, March 22 at 6:30 P.M. Several people have already volunteered to help, and they will work this first time just to get the most important tasks done. It was suggested that perhaps there needed to be clarification on what Willie's duties are so that the cleaning group's work doesn't overlap or inadvertently make double work.

f. Date for next Parish Ministry Fair

A few years ago, we held a parish ministry fair so that parishioners could familiarize themselves with the various ministries and what they do. Each organization was invited to set up a table with some type of display, and parishioners were able to visit the tables and talk to members of the ministries during coffee hour. Council had recently recommended that another ministry fair be held, and it was decided that a good time would be in the fall. The next ministry fair will be October 9, in conjunction with coffee hour. Father suggested going through the contact list for the ministries, perhaps in June, to notify them of the ministry fair and give them ample time to prepare.

g. Fish Fry

Jack K. reported that the last fish fry went very well, with nearly 200 people in attendance. In addition to the number of tickets sold in advance, there was a significant amount of sales at the door as well. Everything is set to go for the next one, and Jack said that he thought people were beginning to look forward to the fish fries as annual events.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Parish Picnic

The annual parish picnic will be held on June 26 this year. Jack S. passed out the picnic planning guide that Larry Wald had originally created and that Tracy had updated last year. Although Connie, as vice chairperson, is officially in charge of the picnic, Jack suggested that if all members of Council help out, it should be quite manageable. Jack asked that Council members look over the planning guide in anticipation of discussing it further next month. We will need to check with the Kubickis to determine if they will be able to do the cooking. We will also need to decide on a location for the picnic as we no longer have the pavilion. There was discussion about the possibility of renting a tent to accommodate the picnic for this year. This also sparked discussion of whether a new pavilion should eventually be built, given that it may only be used a few times each year. Father said that this was the type of matter that would be reviewed by the newly-formed Facility Advisory Committee. Father said that we would need to get estimates of costs before making any decisions on it. Maria

suggested that perhaps there would be parishioners who want to donate toward the building of a new pavilion. Father expressed that he dislikes asking parishioners for extras and for fundraisers but could consider it if that was the only way. Jack K. suggested that if the cost of concrete was prohibitive, an alternative might be to lay brick for the foundation as there are several parishioners who are experienced in masonry and would possibly be able to help.

b. Bus trip

Father asked Carrol if there was the possibility of another bus trip this year, similar to the one last year. Carrol said they are working on it; there are already a couple of stops tentatively planned at a synagogue and the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage, and they are deciding on a couple more places to visit. They are looking at sites on the east side of Cleveland. Carrol felt that the trip would likely be in August or even more toward the fall. If anyone has suggestions for places to visit, Carrol asked that they contact her.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

• **Finance:**

Finance Commission had met the past Thursday to go over the closing report on the new rectory and office. The next meeting will be in three months as they return to meeting on a quarterly basis. They had been meeting more frequently due to all the business related to the sale of the old rectory and new construction. Father also pointed out that they had decided to publish the collections amounts quarterly rather than weekly. It was felt that quarterly reporting was more accurate since there were often significant fluctuations in amounts when reported weekly.

• **IHN:**

We will be hosting again the week of April 17. Twenty-nine blankets and one sheet set were collected during the recent blanket drive. Jack K. reported that they had to dispose of some of the air mattresses due to significant leaks. They are trying to fix a few of them but will need to replace some of the others. Jack K. also reported that two families whom we had recently hosted have now obtained housing.

• **LIFT:**

Linda reported that although the ladies of LIFT were quite supportive of the transitions board Father had proposed, they really did not want to be in charge of it. They did suggest that perhaps it could be coordinated with Sunshine Committee as they felt it would be a good partnership. It was pointed out, however, that might not be feasible since Sunshine Committee is essentially one person at this point. Father said that he would seek a few people to work with him on designing the board.

• **PSR:**

The PSR students will be making Lenten pretzels on Mar. 20. The students had read a story in which a monk had given his students pretzels as a treat for learning their prayers since the shape of the pretzel was reminiscent of folded arms in prayer. The students will also be talking about Holy Week and what each day means. The classes have been praying the stations during

Lent. Their Lenten project - Jesus's great LOVE for us, dying on the Cross – has been hanging in the education building. The new PSR quilt is coming together nicely, with each student designing his/her own square. They would like to have it finished by Mother's Day. PSR is drawing to a close for the year, with only 5 classes left after Easter.

- **Peace and Justice:**

Final preparations are being made for the “Living Laudato Si” program. It will be held March 10 and 17 at 7:30 P.M. in the education building. Peace and Justice Commission worked on filling out the questionnaire regarding their parish ministry and how it relates to our mission statement. Catholic Action Commission of Lorain County is sponsoring a workshop and training for the Fight Against Human Trafficking on Mar. 15 at the Conlon Ministry Center of St. Vincent de Paul parish in Elyria. April 20 is Catholic Lobby Day at the State House in Columbus.

- **Social Programming:**

The second fish fry is upcoming. Confirmation students will be helping during the evening.

- **Spiritual Life:**

Evaluations of the recent mission were very positive. Spiritual Life felt that they might want to invite the presenters back in a couple of years. Plans are moving forward to initiate healing prayer in our parish. They hope to begin offering healing prayer on Sundays soon after Easter.

- **Sunshine Committee:**

A total of 11 cards were sent in the last month.

- **Youth Group:**

Michael reported that at the last meeting, they had the opportunity to sign up for Ohio Means Jobs, a program that deals with careers and also offers practice ACT/SAT questions. Their next meeting is March 20.

The next meeting of Parish Pastoral Council will be April 21 at 7:00 P.M. in the education building.

Formation Prayer: Linda