

Pastoral Council Meeting
Thursday, January 20, 2022
APPROVED Minutes

Attendance:

Father Walter, Joe Hinshaw, Jen VanDenEng, Jennifer Otto, Becky Janssen, Deacon Gary Vanness, Roger Stanley, Terri Romitti, Ted Zabel, Carl Peterson, Randy Conrad, and Chad Rottier

Opening Prayer – 6:56 p.m. Father Walter with a spontaneous prayer

Approval of Agenda – Added an open business. Motion to approve 1) Ted Zabel 2) Chad Rottier; unanimous.

Approval of Pastoral Council Minutes from November Change graded to graded. Motion to approve 1) Jen VanDenEng 2) Chad Rottier; unanimous

Open Business:

Jen Otto brought up a few concerns from other committee church/school members regarding the use of printed reports and how they are pulled. It was stated that the reports are not very straight forward and many people had questions on the final ending balances listed. They had thought maybe there were some discrepancies in the reports themselves. Finance clarified that although much of the transfer to the new system is done, it is not complete. The reports have to be pulled with certain criteria so maybe better clarification of what is needed to be ran can help clarify what is requested. Nikki's role in the office is to have direct connection with the parishioners. She was hired for a certain amount of hours and has been fulfilling well above the required amount. She will continue to keep the structure of the finances and where money needs to be allocated; however, the church is looking to outsource payroll and have a 3rd party accounting firm fulfill the remaining hours. This will allow Nikki the shorter business hours she was hired for. Currently, with the outsourcing and Nikki, we are still at budget for what was spent on previous business managers.

Currently have Randy Conrad on as Finance Council. Would like to keep Chad Rottier as the Finance Council liaison and Randy Conrad liaison of Building and Grounds Committee. Need to add Building and Grounds to our Committee Reports section of the agenda for future meetings.

Pastor's Report:

- School choice had a large impact on recent school years. The amount allocated prior to school choice was far too low for what was spent. However, the past 2 years shows the budget that is allocated for school could be cut back thanks to the hard effort put forth from Country Fest, Winterfest and the School Choice Program. Any money that is allocated each year but not used goes to a "rainy" day fund in case it is needed in the future.
- Would like to see all active parish members put in their 1st hour of work income per week. This would be a large increase for the parish. Need to look at if we spend our money on what is needed or wanted. Currently, about 25% of the parish is giving about 90% of the church money.
- Living Justice needs a new leader. There is a Life display in the St. Therese Hall. Would like to see the committee show the meaning of "Be the voice for the voiceless."
- Stewardship could push to have parishioners come to their home church at least 40 Sundays of the month.
- There are fewer priests. Not many new priest and many current are retiring or passing away. We recently had to fly a priest from NY for Father to be able to take a day off.
- Alter servers have been reactivated; however, many quit after 6th grade. Pray for more servers and that they may stay longer. Would like to reinforce servers at New Evangelization classes for students to bring to their parents. Possibly use service hours used at school for service hours?
- We are also in need of more musicians. A recent funeral had a beautiful service many thanks to the family relatives who did the music.
- There is in-person or online training available through the diocese for current council members. Many feel they did not have adequate training for their position on council.
- The Building and Grounds Committee will need to get an updated quote for the organ. It is not a rush but will but will be needed sooner than later.
- The Bishops Appeal begins in February. We will have a Hearts Filled with Hope visual as the goal is being met.

Old Business

- 1) The parking lot project is set to move forward this spring. Looking at mid-April. Building and Grounds will meet the end of March to finalize with contractors. There is to be no light on the road per town ordinance.
- 2) The corridor between the parish office and church has been repaired on the exterior; however, there is a leak that needs to be found and repaired before moving forward with the inside.
- 3) The tower bells are in need of new quote to add additional bell notes. The Christmas music playing from the steeple was enjoyed by many! Maybe we could have a playlist for other major events, holidays though out the year. Building and Grounds are looking into new quotes of the bells and the boiler.
- 4) The surveys for music ministry has been followed up with. Would like to have a youth choir for Christmas. Not many people had music interest. Joe will follow up again with any leads. Many are not willing to jump in. Possibly have younger musicians play/sing prior to mass to gain confidence and understanding of mass parts. Carl can bring this up to the Worship Committee.
- 5) Harman Studio was the best option to use for our Parish Member Directory. Would like to have the picture openings July 12-16, 26-30 and August 16-20. We receive 5% of the total revenue. Joe to check into what is expected of the parish as far as set-up and sign up. Will contact Missy Peterson for involvement.
- 6) The current Country Fest/Family Fest committee is willing to assist and “train” new committee for Fall Family Fest. Michelle and Jayne have notes along with the layout. Family Fest was combined with Country Fest previously but will be separated to be put in the fall to replace the Fall Bazaar.
- 7) The parish Mission and Strategic Planning Committee will gather together once the virus is gone.

New Business

- 1) Think of ways to increase the usage of the new area. Possibly have more family activities including bingo, booyah, game night etc.... push to extend for parish family use. If we start with families we can get more teen involvement. Ask the NE classes for ideas on what they would like to see so they can be more involved in. Joe and Kathy can look into asking the classes. Should check if bingo is still licensed.
- 2) December was a good month for youth ministry. Held 2 middle school events and 1 high school event. January has been uneventful due to COVID and the timing of the game. Adoration night for the youth hasn't had anybody yet. Some informal events have been Nintendo Switch game night and youth open hang out. Possibly having more incentive and prizes to give out. Wisconsin Catholic Youth is held in March. Love Begins Here is held in June. A youth bike ride is in August. Thanks Joe for continuing to put opportunities out for the younger members to join!
- 3) February 12/13 is Stewardship Weekend. Held in the St. Therese Hall. Would like all committees to participate with Tri Fold board of information for each committee. Expectations and sign up coming soon. Liaisons to help promote different committees.
- 4) The week of 1/15-1/16 held the following # of people at mass: 4pm -176, 7am -74, and 10:30 -189. Numbers in the 800+ was normal for a total weekend count. No particular aid is currently useful in getting people back to church.

Committee Reports

- 1) **Finance Council –**
They are approved to invest funds with the St. Frances Xavier Investment Firm. Will begin in the next 30 days and continue to add throughout the next 18 months or until funds are needed.
- 2) **School Advisory –**
There has been an uptick in Covid at school. They currently have had enough subs to cover. January 31 the registration begins and has been rolled over from last year to shorten the process for families. Jim Newhouse is looking to step down from his position on School Board. Person on the school board needs to be vetted. Catholic School's week is coming up. Next year's budget is currently being worked on.
- 3) **New Evangelization –**
Parish Mission is set for February 3rd – 5th. Has been listed in the Bulletin. Each night is a different session. Stewardship weekend board is already being worked on. Jen, Kathy and Lisa will be manning the tables.

The Random Act of Kindness Cup wrapped and was pleasantly surprising to witness the kindness acts being complete. Grade 2 and the parents will have a church search to familiarize themselves with the church setting.

4) Worship –

Currently working on the trifold for Stewardship Weekend and the volunteers are ready for each mass.

5) Living Justice –

Pat Austin is still on the committee. Heather Ponschock still wants to do the burial. School did a drive for VIDA. Committee meets monthly. There is a list on the website of what each committee does. Volunteer survey for committees is being sent to about 700 members. Need to verify committee description is updated along with the current availability opportunities.

6) Stewardship -

Joe covered everything previously. Would like to start a committee but does not have anything running yet.

7) Hospitality -

Cookies after mass was stopped but would like to get started back up. Currently have 2-3 members on committee. Will begin by getting contacts and meeting times and inviting new members. Hold doors open before church, shoveling snow, cookies after mass etc.

Motion to move to closed session 1) Chad Rottier 2) Randy Conrad; unanimous

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Discussion of youth music ministry to create more musicians. **Motion to set a goal to have youth perform music prior to mass at least once a month to enhance the involvement of our youth's interest of music ministry.**

1) Chad Rottier 2) Terri Romitti; unanimous

Carl can bring information to Ann Thelan. Joe can help find youth to be involved. Service hours can be allotted for. Parish members can offer lessons if available. Jill will put in the bulletin after Terri's discussion.

Moment of Positivity – Auction is going well. Ends Friday at 10pm. Make sure to get your bids in!

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 24, 2022 at 6:45pm

Closing prayer – Hail Mary. St. Nicholas Pray for us

Motion to Adjourn at 9:30 p.m. 1) Terri Romitti 2) Chad Rottier; Unanimous

Submitted by: Jennifer Otto