

SEAS Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 28, 2022

Pastoral Council Goal 2021-2022

The Pastoral Council will plan accordingly for a return to normal as COVID-19 restrictions improve or adjust if they tighten; and for a potential transition to becoming part of a cluster parish.

Attendance: Sharon C, Steven M, Ann K, Jean M, John W, Barb R, Kathie H, Mark C, Culver B, Angie C, Jim F, Fr. Gagnier, Terry P

Excused: Bob R, Debbie R, Jeanne L

Guests: Bill P, Ben W

Notetaker: JoEllen M

1. **Chairperson Comments:** Jim thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions. This is the Year of St. Joseph and so Jim began with a prayer to St. Joseph.
2. **Open Forum:** Bill P. said that 24 people have signed up for the Community Building Workshop. He reached out to Nativity and hasn't heard of anyone else signing up to date.
3. **Additional Agenda:** No additional items addressed.
4. **Review/ Acceptance of Minutes from previous meeting:** Motion made to accept the minutes of the February 28 PC meeting by John W.; Second, Kathie H. Approved by consensus
5. **Old Business:**
 - a) Clustering Transition Update: There are no known plans for change this June 2022; but will move forward in June 2023. Fr. Mc is retiring, also 20 priests are eligible for retirement.
 - b) Tabernacle Update: The Tabernacle will be arriving tomorrow (Tuesday) between 10 and 4.
 - c) Synod questions response: The process at SEAS has been completed.
 - d) Mary A, Parish Town Hall update: Mary has requested to hold off on this request at this time.
 - e) Bill P, Building Community and Conflict Resolution Update: Bill discussed in Open Forum.
 - f) Rooftop Cross from Railroad Depot: Barb R. deferring to minutes said that at Liturgy Committee meeting, they discussed that it should be artistically planned. They suggest keeping the present patina and placing it in the Narthax where the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Statue is. It is recommended to be placed on a pedestal higher than the statue of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. The planning of the logistics are still on-going. Human Concerns Committee also suggest having a plaque made, explaining the significance of the cross to our Parish and the Diocese. Mark C. suggested including more history including the

beginnings at the barn to the Depot. Fr. Gagnier reminded that the Cross originated at St. Bernard's Seminary.

6. **New Business: Selection process for New Parish Council Members:** 4 Members terms are up (Steve M, Jean M, Angie C, and Joanne C). The C's moved to Florida. Bill had one more year, so one person is needed to fill the position for one year. We also need a teen representative. There will be announcements in upcoming bulletins. Selection is on Pentecost Sunday. Deadlines will be established. In the past, several nominations were made, but only a few accepted. It may be possible that we will have one parish council if we merge. It was asked how many meetings do we have per the Bylaws. The answer is ten times annually. John W. suggests that people who are members of Parish Council would benefit from participating in other committees or activities of the parish. Ann K. is concerned that people could find it intimidating. Terry P. says it's hard if you're working. Jim recommends keeping at 10 meetings, once a month should not be a problem. A discernment meeting can be made available as in the past, if there is enough interest.

7. **Monthly Committee/ Stewardship reports:**
(The name " Social Ministry" has been approved to be changed to "Human Concerns.")
 - **Executive Committee:** Bob R. - In Bob's absence, Jim made a motion to approve minutes: Jean M. Seconded. - Approved by consensus.
 - **Human Concerns/Social Ministry:** Kathy H. - We had a meeting with Nativity. We have shared objectives. We agreed to support each other's activities. She deferred to the minutes for the rest of her report. Motion to approve, Ann K.; Seconded John W. – Approved by consensus
 - **Faith Formation:** Sharon C. deferred to minutes. It is good to see Confirmation kids, Sandy is doing a great job. Motion to Approve: Barb R. seconded, Steve M. – Approved by consensus
 - **Facilities:** John W. says looking forward to cutting grass. They are getting the mowers ready. He and Bob R. are discussing what is needed for the budget to submit for May. Motion to approve the minutes: Angie C. Seconded: Fr. Gagnier – Approved by consensus.
 - **Finance Council:** Debbie R. is absent. Culver B. deferred to the minutes. Motion to approve: Jim F.; Seconded: Angie C. – Approved by consensus.
 - **Liturgy:** Barb R. apologized for the delay in minutes. She said that the Railroad Depot cross has already been discussed. For Holy Week, there are some changes. For Easter Vigil, the service will begin at the fire outside. We will light candles when everyone is in their seats. For Holy Thursday, there will be Washing of the Feet, but limited to 12 people. (Twelve to represent the 12 apostles) The twelve parishioners will be selected from different ages and positions in the parish. Restrictions due to COVID involve clean water and towels for each person. We are bringing Holy Water back into the Holy Water Fountains. They will have to be changed weekly. Motion to Approve: Sharon, Seconded; Kathy H. – Approved by consensus.

- **Parish Life:** Jeanne L. was excused. Sharon mentioned that the coffee hour is getting a positive response. \$65.00 was collected. The cost was minimal because people donated baked goods. People seemed to mingle more than at previous breakfasts.

8. Pastoral Leader Comments: Father Gagnier hasn't heard from Bishop Matano about blessing the Tabernacle and the Cross. Kathy requested a picture to be sent to Parish Council Members. The CMA is behind. A letter went out to anyone who has given in the last six years, but not this year. That has brought in about \$800.00. The number of new people was not enough to cover who has left. We are about \$8,000 short. It was suggested to have a collection as people leave. Angie suggested an announcement at the end of the masses this weekend that if we don't meet the quota, we will have to give it out of our budget. She offered to stand at the back of church with a basket. Jim F. will join her. Steve and JoEllen will handle Saturday mass this weekend. If we don't meet our goal by May 31, it comes out of our budget. Father Gagnier's belief is that if everyone does something, it can get done. This weekend Father is appointed by Bishop Matano to talk about the finances.

Closing Prayer: Angie C.