

SMOTH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – 15Feb14

Attendees:

Parish Council Role	Name	Present?
Pastor	Fr. Stan Ulman	Y
President & At Large Representative	Richard Danforth	Y
Vice President & Education Commission Representative	Janet Gerhard	Y
Education Commission	Peggy Casing	N
Secretary - At Large	Ken Corrion	Y
At Large	Curt Benham	N
Christian Service Commission Representative	Mark Joyce	Y
	Sr. Grace Keane	N
Evangelization Commission Representative	Susie Phillips	Y
	George Philips	N
Fellowship Commission Representative	Marlene DeBrosse	Y
Finance Council Representative	Mark Suwinski	Y
Stewardship Commission Representative	Carol Gunther	Y
	Andrew Fadanelli	N
Worship Commission Representative	John Hundiak	Y
	Beth Belesky	Y
HFRS Representative	Jennifer Neill	Y
PAV Representative	Joan Cashman	Y
	Denis Naeger	Y
Seniors Representative	Virginia McMahan	Y
Youth Representative	TBD	N
Other Attendees	Thomas Kubacki	N
	Forrest Cooper	Y
	Jay Fedewa	Y

Opening Prayer – Denis Naeger

Old Business

- 1) Prior Meeting Minutes – Richard Danforth
 - a. 1/15/14 Meeting Minutes approved
- 2) Parish Mission – Beth Belesky
 - a. Draft Flyer for advertising this event distributed to PPC.
 - b. More volunteers will be needed. Beth will contact Laura Corrion for assistance.
 - c. A booklet will be distributed during 1st night of the mission.
 - d. A “Mission Prayer” will be shared during masses to energize interest and participation in the event.

- e. Marlene DeBrosse is coordinating fellowship events for each evening.
 - f. A Communal Penance event will not be held during Holy Week. Other opportunities for Reconciliation will be offered prior to that week.
 - g. No evening Mass will occur on Monday during the week of our mission.
 - h. Our mission theme is “Hungers of the Human Heart”.
 - i. A letter or email will be sent to our parishioners inviting them to participate.
- 3) Meeting with St. Andrew’s Parish Council – Denis Naeger
- a. Our Pastors need to agree on an evening for this joint meeting. Fr. Mike will provide a proposal for 2 options.
 - b. Denis Naeger, Richard Danforth & Fr. Stan will develop an Agenda proposal for this joint meeting.
- 4) Strategic Drivers –Structural Framework (blue cards) – Ken Corrion
- a. All attendees at this PPC meeting voted on the 6 “Structural Framework” concerns selected in January. The following “Structural Framework” Concerns are listed in order of highest to lowest importance as determined by their votes:
 - i. New parishioners are not integrated effectively (11 votes).
 - ii. We do not have processes that provide continuous feedback from parishioners about our performance (10 votes).
 - iii. We have too many people who are not contributing their fair share (7 votes).
 - iv. It is too hard to coordinate between different groups (2 votes).
 - v. We don’t have an adequate disaster preparedness plan (0 votes).
 - vi. Our orientation for new staff and volunteers needs improvement (0 votes).
 - b. This information will be retained for a future meeting.

New Business

- 1) Strategic Drivers –Ministry Implementation (purple cards) – Ken Corrion
- a. The Ministry Implementation cards were distributed and the Top 4 Concerns selected by the PPC are as follows:
 - i. We have less than optimal space utilization.
 - ii. We don’t regularly solicit our parishioners for feedback on possible improvements.
 - iii. We don’t offer enough educational programs for all our parishioners.
 - iv. We don’t have an effective outreach strategy.
- 2) Lent (starts March 5th) –Beth Belesky / Richard Danforth
- a. Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving opportunities will be presented each week of Lent.
 - b. Christian Service identified 2 organizations for our Parish’s Almsgiving: Children’s Village & Lifespan.
 - c. The Chairperson of each Commission are requested to send their specific recommendations to Beth. She will coordinate these ideas and develop articles for the bulletin each week of Lent.
 - d. Stewardship would like to distribute a daily prayer card that can be used by all families. This will be distributed on Ash Wednesday and made available at the following masses. Anyone interested in recommending specific prayers should contact Carol Gunther.
- 3) Liquor License for upcoming Wine & Beer Tasting Event – Richard Danforth
- a. A license is needed since an admission fee is planned for St. Vincent DePaul’s March 15th Wine & Beer Tasting event.
 - b. SMOTH is limited to 12 licenses per year. We don’t anticipate this being an issue.

- c. The PPC voted on and passed the motion to apply for this liquor license.
- 4) Changing Lives Together: Plans for Year 2 – Denis Naeger
 - a. Four different letters will be drafted by Fr. Stan for mailing this week:
 - i. New Parishioners will be invited to an introductory CLT meeting on March 23rd.
 - ii. A Thank You letter will be sent to those who already contributed to CLT. It will include a report of what has already been accomplished and let them know they are welcome to give more.
 - iii. The people identified as “Pace Setters”, but who chose not to contribute to CLT will be reminded of this need and asked to reconsider.
 - iv. An appeal for support will be sent to the 2/3 of all parishioners who have not responded to prior requests for support.

Commission Updates

- 1) Finance – Mark Suwinski
 - a. Funding for the CLT front entrance canopy project has been approved. An Architect is preparing the building plans. We hope to start building this summer.
 - b. \$3,100 is being added monthly to our general account.
 - c. All bills are paid and we remain debt free.
- 2) Evangelization – Susie Phillips
 - a. Much discussion occurred on how to get more people involved to ensure all Commissions are covered. We are struggling to find more participants and 25 of 28 families did not respond to a request to join the Evangelization Committee.
 - b. Proposal: Create a bulletin insert or make an announcement at the upcoming Mission to invite people to attend the Parish Council meetings. This can be used to improve participation in all commissions. Also propose advertising all meetings in bulletin. Everyone is invited with no obligation.
 - c. Emagine Theatre will run the “Son of God” movie starting Feb 28th. This is being considered as a future “Family Movie Night” event.
 - d. St. Anastasia published a “Welcome” brochure. We would like to offer something similar at SMOTH. Our Pictorial Directory contract offers 1000 free bulletins which will be used for making our own “Welcome” brochures.
- 3) Christian Service – Mark Joyce
 - a. St. Vincent DePaul’s Wine Down event is planned for March 15th. Sr. Grace is collecting empty wine bottles to be used for this event.
 - b. Donations are needed for SMOTH’s basket that will be donated to CCRT’s Gala on March 1st.
 - c. Interfaith Caregivers will host a dialogue with a local Muslim group. We will support this event with meetings at SMOTH to open dialogue between us.
- 4) Education –Janet Gerhard
 - a. Goals are being reviewed to determine what needs are / are not being met.
 - b. We would like to reach out more to young adults in our parish.
 - c. Also reviewing one of Matthew Kelley’s programs to determine if it can be utilized to help us achieve our goals.
- 5) Fellowship – Marlene DeBrosse
 - a. Coordinators have been identified for the Fellowship activities after the Mission service on Sunday and Wednesday. We still need help for Monday & Tuesday. We expect this to be a self-sufficient event.

- b. The Parish Picnic is planned for July 15th as part of Parish's Anniversary celebration.
- 6) Worship – Beth Belesky
 - a. We are preparing for the upcoming Lenten liturgies.
 - b. No immediate concerns were found during the recent survey of our Sound System in the church. A dead zone may exist in the mid-section of the church near the back, but more data is needed.
 - c. We may obtain more benefit from training our liturgical readers on how to use the micro phone correctly. Proposal: have an outside authority critique our readers. This may help prevent people from taking offense to feedback received on the speaking skills.
 - d. We also need to determine what demographic of people sit in each section to determine if this influences the feedback being received. Last week's Anniversary Mass did move people around and may have prevented biasing by anyone demographic of parishioners.
 - e. We are also investigating how Eucharistic Ministers receive the Plates and Cups during Communion and hope to make this process more efficient.
- 7) Stewardship – Carol Gunther
 - a. The Stewardship Fair is being planned for Oct 4th & 5th. We need each commission to share thoughts on how to support this event.

Other Groups

- 1) Seniors – Virginia McMahon
 - a. The Seniors Fellowship group celebrated Birthdays and Anniversaries.
- 2) Youth – No representative.
- 3) Pontiac Area Vicariate – Denis Naeger
 - a. Our Vicariate Assembly is planned for Feb 26th. Sr. Simone Campbell will speak at this Oakland University meeting and everyone's attendance is strongly encouraged.
 - b. Denis conducted a quiz on the Parishes in our PAV. John Hundiak was the first person to correctly guess the location of all PAV parishes.
 - c. Tickets are on sale this weekend for CCRT's March 1st Gala at Notre Dame.
- 4) HFRS – Jennifer Neill
 - a. Registration for next year is in process. The total number of students planning to attend HFRS next year is not yet known,
 - b. HFRS remains grateful for all the support provided by SMOTH.
 - c. Over 100 children participated in SMOTH's KofC Essay contest!

Other Announcements

- 1. Forrest Cooper agreed to be the Chairman of our upcoming CSA drive. He also volunteered to be an At-Large PPC member for next year.
- 2. Opening Prayer – Richard Danforth will lead us at the next meeting.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Stan

Next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting:

Wednesday, March 12, 2014 @ 7:00 pm. Location = HFRS South Campus