

SMOTH Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – 15Jan14

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	Y
Fellowship Commission Representative	Marlene DeBrosse	Y
Finance Council Representative	Mark Suwinski	Y
	Carol Gunther	N
Stewardship Commission Representative	Andrew Fadanelli	Y
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	N
Youth Representative	TBD	N
Other Attendees	Thomas Kubacki	N

Opening Prayer – Jennifer Neill

Old Business

- 1) Prior Meeting Minutes – Richard Danforth
 - a. 12/14/13 Meeting Minutes approved
- 2) Parish Pastoral Council Composition – Richard Danforth
 - a. Executive Committee recommends including 2 At large members in our By-Laws. One At-large member should be added at end of this PPC term. An additional At-large member should be added the following year to establish overlapping terms. All PPC members are asked to consider potential candidates for these new At-large members.
 - b. This motion was considered and approved by the PPC attendees.
 - c. Our By-Laws will be amended accordingly.

- 3) Commission Templates – Richard Danforth
 - a. All templates should be given to Denis Naeger by January 15th. Worship, Stewardship, Christian Service & Education Commissions have completed this task. Denis will pursue those that are missing. He will begin publishing articles on our commissions February 1st. Photos of each commission are available for inclusion in the articles.
- 4) Meeting with St. Andrew’s Parish Council – Denis Naeger
 - a. Denis will meet with a representative from St Andrew’s Parish Council on January 28th. He has identified 2 potential dates for a joint meeting and plans to schedule one with them. They will also begin planning this event.
- 5) CSA Update – Richard Danforth
 - a. \$153,606 pledged to date with \$6500 occurring since October 9.
- 6) CLT Update - Denis Naeger
 - a. SMOTH’s pledges remain over our diocesan target but under our parish target.
 - b. Meetings are planned to develop next steps to achieve our parish goals. Three areas to address include:
 - i. New parishioners
 - ii. Non-donors
 - iii. Thanking those who gave so far

New Business

- 1) Strategic Drivers –Structural Framework (blue cards)
 - a. The Structural Framework cards were distributed and the Top 6 Concerns selected are as follows:
 - i. We do not have processes that provide continuous feedback from parishioners about our performance.
 - ii. We don’t have an adequate disaster preparedness plan.
 - iii. New parishioners are not integrated effectively.
 - iv. Our orientation for new staff and volunteers needs improvement.
 - v. We have too many people who are not contributing their fair share.
 - vi. It is too hard to coordinate between different groups.
- 2) CCRT – Joan Cashman
 - a. Celebrating 10 year anniversary with a “Hearts Aglow” fund raising gala on March 1st at Notre Dame Prep. Tickets are available for \$40 each. They are seeking donations of silent auction items and volunteers to help out with the gala.

Commission Updates

- 1) Finance – Mark Suwinski
 - a. Our Christmas offertory was \$68k. This is quite good in light of our on-going CLT and CSA activities.
 - b. Our Building Committee was granted \$30k from CLT for sound system improvements.
 - c. All bills are paid and we remain debt free.
- 2) Evangelization – Susie Phillips
 - a. We are developing a list of last year’s accomplishments.
 - b. We are working with the Fellowship Commission to reach out to our inactive parishioners.
 - c. Another Emagine Theater night is being planned for March.

- d. Concern: “CFCA” (Christian Foundation for Children and Aging) changed their name to “Unbound”. This new name sounds very unevangelical and we are disappointed with removing “Christian” from the title.
 - e. Consecration of the Family is now completed with 10 families. We are looking to build on this with faith sharing groups.
 - f. Prayer cards distributed at Christmas resulted in 13 prayer requests and 1 person interested in joining our parish.
- 3) Christian Service – Mark Joyce
- a. Our Giving Tree program distributed over 1300 gifts this past Christmas. This is a very good response.
 - b. Children’s Village is being considered for future support.
 - c. Nine buses from our area plan to attend the Right to Life event in Washington D.C. this next week.
 - d. CARE plans to hold 5 joint meetings with St. Irenaeus this year.
- 4) Education –Janet Gerhard
- a. Good discussion but nothing to report.
- 5) Fellowship – Marlene DeBrosse
- a. No one was able to attend tonight’s Commission meeting.
 - b. A survey is being developed for Coffee and Donuts to generate new ideas for future fellowship activities.
- 6) Worship – Beth Belesky
- a. Reconciliation will be included in this year’s mission.
 - b. A blessing of throats is planned for early February.
 - c. Lenten planning dates are being established.
- 7) Stewardship – Andrew Fadanelli
- a. A timeline is being established for our stewardship commitment season as follows (tentative):
 - i. Sep 23 distribute Burgundy Books (Stewardship theme)
 - ii. Sep 28 have lay witnesses speak at masses
 - iii. Oct 5conduct ministry fair to share stewardship opportunities. Representatives from all groups will be needed after each mass.
 - iv. Oct 12 have a Commitment weekend
 - v. Oct 19 have a follow-up weekend
 - vi. Oct 26 have a celebration event
 - b. A concern was raised by a PPC member – we need to make sure this Stewardship Commitment event is more fruitful than prior events.
 - c. Carol Gunther agreed to be Chairperson for the Stewardship Commission and Andrew Fadanelli agreed to be our PPC Representative.

Other Groups

- 1) Seniors – Virginia McMahon
 - a. No representative.
- 2) Youth – No representative.
- 3) Pontiac Area Vicariate – Denis
 - a. Sister Simone Campbell will be speaking during the PAV assembly on February 26th. Her topic is “Reality of U.S. Poverty and Political Paralysis”.
- 4) HFRS – Jennifer Neill
 - a. School Board meeting this past Monday.
 - b. HFRS is overhauling their fund raising and by-laws.
 - c. They are grateful to SMOTH for all our support of HFRS.

- d. An Open House is planned for January 26th.
- e. The 7th graders attended Sacred Heart Seminary. Great feedback was received from all participants.
- f. A new tuition structure is now in place. The Fund for Future and Annual Fruit Sale were rolled into the regular tuition costs. Discounts now exist for enrolling multiple siblings in HFRS.

Other Announcements

1. Ash Wednesday is on March 5th. Opportunities for Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving will again be offered. We must decide how each commission will support these 3 areas. Beth will forward information to Richard for distribution to the commissions for inclusion in the next PPC Agenda.
2. A Heritage / Immigration Awareness event is planned for January 26th.
3. Opening Prayer – Denis will lead us at the next meeting.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Stan

Next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting:

Saturday, February 15, 2014 @ 7:45 am. Location = SMOTH.