

Education Commission: minutes from the December 13, 2014 meeting:

Present: Peggy Casing, Janet Gerhard, Sam Guerra (youth rep), Suzie Phillips, Fr. Stan, Clem Valot and Tom Wietchy.

Absent: Denis Naeger, Jennifer Neill and

DISCUSSION OF OLD BUSINESS:

Tom has been contact with the coordinator of young adult ministry in our vicariate. In light of the AOD survey responses, Tom suggests that we have Kimberly S. Boismier (Agape Young Adult Coordinator, Pontiac Area Vicariate, (248) 906-857, agapepav@gmail.com) as a guest at an upcoming meeting. We would like to see how we could assist in facilitating a coordination of young adult events within our vicariate. Suzie suggested that the AOD Evangelization Committee might like to make connections with her, possibly heading towards having something for high school aged through adults – possibly having the vicariate form a “youth committee.”

It was noted that there has been a problem with other parish’s willingness to place articles in their bulletins. Suzie, for example, sent out articles to ten parishes with poor results. (only 2-3 actually put the article in their bulletins.)

When asked what items youth might be interested in traveling to another parish for, Sam suggested a “game night,” which was popular in the past.

A discussion about the use of Facebook followed. Sam shared that Twitter is far more popular with the youth. We encouraged the continued usage of the parish’s Facebook page with a link to Twitter.

Peggy shared that St. Mary’s will be hosting a “Mental Health First Aid Training” on January 23rd from 8:30-5:00. This training is facilitated by an individual from Common Ground, and is designed to help all those who have contact with individuals in a health care setting, a school setting, a church setting, as “first-responders,” or any other area of contact with the public. It teaches a 5 step action plan to offer initial help to people with signs and symptoms of mental illness or in a crisis, and connect them with the appropriate professional, peer, social, or self-help care. There is no cost to attend. (Yes, it will be free, but space is limited) You’ll receive a workbook, all training materials, a light breakfast, lunch, and snacks. Those that “pass” the class will receive a three-year certification. Please register BEFORE January 1st at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4AA9A62CA57-mental> or by calling Peggy Casing at 248-844-8662. Thank you!

Also, she will be conducting a “Protecting God’s Children Workshop” on January 15th at 6:30 PM. (in the gym) Those working with youth or with any other “vulnerable” individuals are required to attend, per AOD guidelines. All those planning to attend, should go to the AOD website to register. Please let other staff and volunteers know about this formation opportunity. Thank you!

NEXT STEPS

Tabled – Next time we will discuss what our goals are, and work to get a good, working, relationship with our PAV youth rep, as well as our parish youth group.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

NO REPORT FROM HFRS

NO PRESCHOOL REPORT

ACTION ITEM(S)

Sam will ask the Youth Planning Team (YPT) what speakers they might like to hear. She will bring us a list.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Casing