

St. Mary of the Hills  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 18, 2017

Present: Meghan Schuler Todd, Clem Valot, Cheryl Garneau, Beth Belesky, Sam Guerra, Hugh Buchanan, John Schuler, Denise Kay, Cheryl Bida

Meeting commenced: 9:50 AM

Opening Prayer- Solanus Casey

All

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. October 2017 Minutes approval- motion to approve, second. *Minutes approved.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Proposal for new Security Ministry

Fr. Stan

- a. Security in a broad sense- medical emergencies, natural/weather issues
- b. Volunteers to welcome others, ready to give direction, assist in an emergency
- c. Discussion-
  - i. What to call the ministry- create a name that is soft and doesn't instill a sense of panic or fear- currently there is no name but still a new idea
  - ii. Training for our current ministers- ushers and greeters
  - iii. Sign in at masses for doctors/nurses/medical personnel- so we know that they are present and where there are. Not necessarily assigned to each mass, but just be aware when they are here at mass in case we need to call on them to assist
- d. More to come on this idea and how it will evolve

2. Unleash the Gospel Reflections Guide- Module 2

All

- a. Commission Meeting Discussion
  - i. Worship-
    1. Status quo mentality- making change is difficult and it is hard to expand into a group setting, may what to change but don't know how to change and need to have a process in place which can be difficult
      - a. Change should be looked at as a process
    2. Not good at endings- we have a lot of commissions and committees that were once good at a specific time but may not as fruitful as they once were and to recognize that
      - a. Idea to combine

ii. Fellowship

1. Closed community- tend to have a closed mind set but we should change to be an open and welcoming church and be open and inviting

iii. Christian Service

1. Cooperation
2. Reeducate our parishioners about the mass and what it means. There is a mindset of comparing and that we need to be entertained and we are missing the main point about the Eucharist.
  - a. We need shallow entry points.
  - b. Idea to do a “mass explained”
  - c. We can pray and think about these ideas

iv. Education

1. Communication-between the Parish Council and the Staff could be better and thought about ways to improve the pathways
  - a. Discussed a forum or blog to keep everyone informed of what is going on
  - b. There are programs exists- Yammer but only as good as the responses and people checking them
  - c. The more communication the better
- b. Certain decisions may take longer to occur so we can be more prayerful about which direction we need to go- be more confident in God

3. Unleash the Gospel Action Item

All

- a. Intercessory prayer teams should be established by December 2017
  - i. Status- in progress. Bulletin article will run November 26. This will be an expansion of the 5PM Friday rosary, currently prayed for the intention of St. Mary of the Hills.
  - ii. Core team of people meet on a monthly basis or other timeframe to go over the intentions of the parish and they will pray daily
  - iii. Idea is to involve the existing Prayer Chain individuals

Meeting Concluded: 11:45 AM