

**St. Mary's Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes: September 1, 2011
7:00 pm, Parish Library**

Present:

Anne Bleistine

John Blowers

Brian Eltz

Marilyn D'Andrea-Spica

Fr. Leo Goodman

Chris Masterson

Heather O'Brien

John O'Brien

Rick Poillon

Don Peris

Sharon Walker

Terry Warco

Mathew Weitzel

Tina Skubon

Fran Sescilla

Joe Clupp

Excused:

Allan Pawlikowski

Steve Sacco

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order by Terry Warco at 6:30pm. Members prayed the Mission prayer together and new members were introduced to the council. There was a scriptural reading of John 20:19-23, followed by open discussion of the Question of the Week: "When I'm offended, what steps do I take and are they as loving as Jesus' instructions?"

Chair Remarks:

Terry Warco thanked Father Leo for his benediction service preceding the meeting and briefly reviewed Robert's Rules for council members. He also gave a review on the process of sending out the agenda, meeting minutes, and mission reports. He then stated that Allan Pawlikowski and Steve Sacco were excused from this night's meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

At this time minutes from the June 7th meeting were reviewed. Upon a motion made by John Blowers, seconded by Rick Poillon, the minutes were unanimously approved by the council.

Role of Parish Pastoral Council:

Father Leo discussed the role of the PPC by stating that it is the advisory and governing body of the parish and that members are the "eyes and ears" of parish bringing parish concerns, issues, ideas, etc. to meetings. He stated members should be good listeners, honest, open minded, accountable, gentle, reliable, and visible. Members of the PPC are seen as leaders by their fellow parishioners. He stated that the council and its members must always keep the parish mission in mind, and must seek to discern what the Lord wants for the parish. Father Leo then discussed the role of chair members, stating that they are the link between the PPC and the church's ministries. Terry Warco added that members of the council should try to be present at church events and should have good attendance for PPC meetings. He also stated that members should serve as

motivators to each other and to parishioners. Rick Poillon asked if new members could get name tags, especially for hospitality gatherings, etc. Terry Warco agreed to take care of this issue.

Role of Mission Heads:

At this time Terry Warco reviewed the role of Mission Heads for PPC. He went over each mission and named their respective chair as follows:

Evangelization – John Blowers

Social Justice and Welfare – John O'Brien

Pastoral – Fran Sescilla

Family Life – Joe Clupp

Education – Alan Pawlikowski

Ecumenism – Chris Masterson

Liturgy – Don Peris

He then reviewed the process of submitting and circulating mission reports.

Role of Officers:

Terry Warco briefly discussed the role of officers for PPC, and stated the current officers a:

Chair – Terry Warco

Vice Chair – John Blowers

Secretary – Heather O'Brien

Conduct of Meetings:

Terry Warco briefly described the conduct of the meeting as formal/informal, as the council had discussed early in reviewing Robert's Rules.

Small Group Discussion for 2011/2012 Goals:

At this time members of the pastoral council broke up into 3 small groups to discuss ideas for PPC goals for the upcoming year. Groups were given approximately 45 minutes to come up with two to three ideas for goals to openly discuss with the rest of the council.

Upon resuming the meeting as a whole, members openly discussed each group's ideas for upcoming goals. A common theme was present and the ideas were easily narrowed down to three areas: Family Life, Continuation of Hospitality, and Adult Education. Members then volunteered to be on subcommittees to visit these ideas and bring back common goals to October's meeting.

Subcommittee members are as follows:

Family Life – Anne Bleistine, Joe Clupp, Marilyn D'Andrea-Spica, Heather O'Brien, and Matt Weitzel

Hospitality – John Blowers, Don Peris, Rick Poillon, and John O'Brien

Adult Education – Father Leo, Brian Eltz, Sharon Walker, Terry Warco, and Chris Masterson

Since Alan Pawlikowski and Steve Sacco were not present, they will decide which subcommittee they would like to join at the next meeting.

Pastor's Report:

Fr. Leo stated that the pilgrimage to our sister parish was wonderful and a great exposure for the youth of our parish. It was a huge step forward with the relationship between the parishes. He also stated that Vacation Bible School went great this year, and that the workshop on the liturgy had a great turn out. The parish also celebrated its one year anniversary for broadcasting the

Mass with Comcast and that Resurrection School had a great start to the new year at St. Anne's. He reminded members that the Friend's of St. Mary's Fundraiser is this month and that the Parish Mission is coming up on September 18th through the 20th. He also stated that he will be attending a priest retreat next month on the new liturgy. He also discussed the possibility of a family movie night where the parish would rent out a local movie theater for this event. Father Leo talked about some upcoming Christian movies that the church is trying to push, and that St. Mary's is expanding to the social media, stating that he now has a Facebook and Twitter account. He wanted to thank members of the Catholic Worker House for the great job they did with the block party.

Old Business:

Preservation and Development Update:

Terry Warco stated that the Manos property is no longer available for purchase and that the architects working on the Legacy Project are heading back to the drawing board to look at ideas for better parking accommodations and to develop schemes to include the use of buildings that are already present on the property. They are also going to meet with the Lancaster Newspaper to come up with an agreement on the parking garage.

Hospitality 101:

Terry Warco passed out the Power Point presentation Rick Poillon and his wife created and asked members to review the material for language changes and ideas to make it more parishes specific. Questions, comments, and suggestions will be directed to Rick Poillon or council officers.

New Business:

Children's Worksheet:

A question was brought to the council regarding the possibility of reviving the children's worksheets that are available for Mass. After the council openly discussed the need/demand of these worksheets, the cost of printing them, and the age groups they target, it was decided that the reviving the children's worksheets should be perused. Anne Bleistine volunteered to look into websites offering literature for children.

Terry Warco reminded council members of the following upcoming events:

1. The commissioning service for new members will be next weekend at the end of the 8:30 Mass and at the beginning of the 11:00 Mass with hospitality in between.
2. The next parish council meeting is set for October 6th, 2011
3. The parish mission will begin September 18th and will close on the 20th.
4. The campfire Mass is September and October 1st, with Mass at 7:00pm

A suggestion was made to add acknowledgements to the agenda to recognize positive things that happen or that people are doing. A motion was made by Heather O'Brien, seconded by John Blowers, to add acknowledgments to the PPC agenda. This motion was unanimously passed by the council.

At 9:00pm a motion was made by Joe Clupp, seconded by Chris Masterson, to adjourn the meeting. This motion was unanimously passed by the council. Father Leo closed the meeting with a prayer.