

St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL
Pastoral Council Minutes
March 5, 2019

Council Members Present: Mary Oliphant, Tom Cordaro, Brian Pelz, Dave Schwartz, Carrie Tilton, Fr. Paul Hottinger, Joey Rose, Julie Lomax, Anne Lysaught

Council Members Absent: Peggy Soeldner, Chas Bellock, Jim Chitwood

Guests: Carl Van Dril

OPENING AND PRAYER: Tonight's meeting was held in the Upper Room. Joey Rose supplied the prayer and Mary Oliphant called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

APPROVAL OF JAN 2018 MEETING MINUTES: Mary made motion to approve January minutes, Joey seconded. Minutes approved.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

- The council discussed the state of the budget, specifically the deficit. Much of the discussion focused around possible solutions to the deficit.
 - Council members reviewed the feedback they received from their committees and discussed how each committee should move forward in their budgeting.
 - Possible solutions discussed: self-funded programs; cut programs based on popularity/attendance; fundraising; donations; etc.
- Another large point of discussion was making sure parishioners are presented with clear, digestible information about the budget so they can make informed decisions about the potential solutions for the deficit.
- PC and Carl Van Drill also discussed the Stewardship Committee and the goals for that ministry.
 - Stewardship will work on revisions to their budget reporting language in the bulletin.
- Council voted to approve Stewardship Committee's proposal for a Debt Reduction campaign, and to also make budget cuts to commission programs.
 - CSC will cut 15%, CWC 15%, and CEC 10%
 - The Debt Reduction campaign will allow SMMP a two-year "grace period" to develop a long-term plan for future budgets and revenue.
 - All approved, none opposed.
- Council is requesting more information from the Admin committee regarding their expenses. They are recommending an energy audit and specific reports to examine their flexible costs and fixed costs.
 - Example: Contracts for bids for services (landscaping, grounds, etc.).

APPRECIATION DINNER FEEDBACK from Dave Schwartz

- Very successful, came in close to budget, thank you to all.
- Outstanding job to the band.

- Brian Pelz suggested that instead of using cards to dismiss tables for dinner, they pre-determine the order and have an individual walk around and dismiss the tables. The microphone and cards didn't seem to work as well.
- Dave discussed the decision to go with Angeli's over Sharkos.
- Brian and Carrie suggested finding and adding to Don Wenig's documentation about the Appreciation Dinner process that can be used year over year.

MINISTRY REVIEW from Ministry Committee

- Moved to April meeting.

NOMINATIONS UPDATE from Joey

- Nominations will be in the bulletin.
- Joey suggested a mass announcement for the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th weekends in March.
 - Joey will contact Sue Carroll about the announcement.
 - Tom suggested an additional announcement for the weekend before the Information session as a final reminder.
- Information session is April 3rd.

There was a short break for refreshments at 8:13pm. Reconvened at 8:25pm.

COMMISSION REPORTS (reports attached)

CWC from Brian Pelz

- Planning for Lent and Easter.
- Still following up on emergency procedures, doing research and discussing with other parishes. Still working on a formal plan.
 - Carrie suggested including information in the bulletin so parishioners can know what they should do in case of an emergency.
- Council is requesting a report from CWC and Admin for next month about the emergency procedure plans and possible security and safety improvements.
- Fr. Paul suggested that the greeters, RE teachers, etc. become CPR trained and brush up on the defibrillators.

CEC from Julie Lomax

- All Saints parent is coming as a possible representative for the CEC.
- Sue's retirement party is coming up in June! It will be held after 8am mass.
- The Knight's of Columbus wedding vow renewal is also coming up.

CSC from Carrie Tilton

- Comfort Care seems to be getting more calls for luncheons, so that seems to be working better.
- No updates for Sunday Nursery.
- Pro-Life committee delivered the letters to the appropriate representatives.
 - There are now weekly Health and Life prayer services every Thursday from 7-7:30pm. Will be announced in the bulletin.
- September Senior Club is fired up and ready to roll out their new branding.

ADMIN from Anne Lysaught

- Admin committee was asking if PC needs a report on the mold and carpet cleaning, but no report is needed.
- PC requested reports on Admin's budget line items and the safety and security work progress.

PEACE POLE from Tom Cordaro

- Moved to April meeting.

POLARIZATION WITHIN SMMP from Jim Chitwood

- Moved to April meeting.

PARISHIONERS IN NEED OF PRAYER from Joey Rose

- Joey wanted to know what the church could offer in terms of a "prayer hotline" or a prayer person who could be available for people in difficult situations who are looking for someone to pray with.
- Council discussed the parish answering service and the existing protocol for someone in a personal crisis.

LONG-TERM PLANNING from Dave Schwartz

- Dave asked if SMMP is thinking about a long-term plan for the health of the parish, and possibly discussing and developing a plan with the diocese, sister parishes, or surrounding parishes.
 - Tom said there are resources available to make long-term stewardship/financial planning that perhaps we could utilize.
- PC expressed interest in this type of long-term planning, and Brian asked how we could move the discussion forward.
- Dave suggested we start conversations with surrounding parishes to discuss possible partnerships and other cooperative programming.
- PC will add this to the April agenda.

WHAT WE ARE HEARING

- Anne = Good meeting, heard compliments on the homilies from this last week, also heard there was no bulletin distributor at the 10am and 5pm masses at the back door (the Naper Blvd. entrance)
- Fr. Paul = Good meeting, good discussions
- Mary = Good meeting, she liked the Facebook video of the people sending off the food at the border, happy that there were things posted about it
- Dave = Kudos to Joan Noonan about the poetry on the cover of the bulletin
- Joey = Good meeting
- Tom = Good meeting, asked Mary to respond to Dan Lawler's email
- Brian = Heard from people at mass that they felt very welcomed
- Carrie = Good meeting and good budget discussion
- Julie = Heard good things from the Shamrock Shindig, wonderful food
- Becca = Good meeting, heard good things about the trivia night

The Council ended with a closing prayer at 9:08pm.