

St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL
Pastoral Council Minutes
April 2, 2019

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

OPENING AND PRAYER: Tonight's meeting was held in the Upper Room. Brian Pelz supplied the prayer and Jim Chitwood called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 2019 MEETING MINUTES: Joey made motion to approve March minutes, Mary seconded. Minutes approved.

LONG-TERM PLANNING/VISION for SMMP from Dave Schwartz

- Dave opened a discussion about the diocese's overview and plan for the future of the Naperville parishes.
 - He proposes to have a conversation with the diocese to hear their thoughts and will report on it at next month's meeting.

FEBRUARY LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY GATHERING FOLLOW-UP from Tom Cordaro

- Tom said the first survey is live and so far we've had about 200 responses (about 15% of total).
- The second survey will launch May 1st.

DATE AND AGENDA FOR AUGUST LEADERSHIP COMMUNITY GATHERING from Tom Cordaro

- PC discussed possible dates for the August gathering. Council agreed on Saturday, August 17th.
- Tom asked Council to start considering what other items to add to the agenda for the day.
 - Mary and Peggy volunteered to find an outside speaker for the gathering.

APPRECIATION DINNER DATE 2020 from Tom Cordaro

- PC discussed possible dates for the Appreciation Dinner 2020. Council agreed on Saturday, January 25th.
 - Dave asked if we should do something special to celebrate the parish's 40th anniversary. Tom suggested perhaps the fall PC creates an ad hoc committee to work on possible events.
 - PC discussed what to do about the budget for any celebratory events.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE from Chas Bellock

- Chas noted that the weekly contributions vary widely from week to week. Overall, he said there was about a \$30,000 shortfall in contributions.
 - But SMMP had the second RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) contribution for the year! So that's a success.

- The committee is trying to come up with a graph to present the budget information.
- Brian asked if there was any way to capture the number of contributors. Anne said the committee is reviewing ways to measure this statistic.
- Stewardship discussed the “Retire the Debt Campaign” and how best to communicate the goal. Will work with the communications director.
 - Anne said the proposal for the “Retire the Debt Campaign” should be ready by June.
- Anne Lysaught is joining the Stewardship Committee.
- Next Stewardship meeting scheduled for April 16th.
- There was a brief discussion on New Parishioner onboarding and the different methods attempted to make new parishioners feel welcome.
 - Will add this item to the May agenda.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

- Jim opened the discussion by paraphrasing 2 letters from parishioners regarding the budget. The question posed was why SMMP gives money outside of the parish, but still makes cuts to our own programs. Jim brought forward the topic so PC could discuss the Council’s larger role in the budget determinations, specifically in regards to specific committee budgets.
 - Fr. Paul pointed out that SMMP donations were from a past time when SMMP had more funds available to share.
- PC considered the Council’s role in budgeting for the individual committees, and the role it has in determining outside donations when we’re making budget cuts.
- PC will invite Charitable Contribution committee members to the May meeting to present their thoughts on tithing. Then Council will ultimately determine the appropriateness of tithing this year, and will approve the budget before the June meeting.

LEAKY-ROOF REPAIR from Brian Pelz

- Brian opened the discussion with 2 options: we could leave the roof/window as is and accept the damage, or fix the issue. He brought the topic to PC to determine the importance of this issue.
- Admin has looked into the issue many times, but could not find the problem. However, Anne noted there are new products that could resolve the mystery leak.
- Council recommends that Admin take up this issue again with the intent of finding a solution and bringing a plan to the May PC meeting.

There was a short break for refreshments at 8:09pm. Reconvened at 8:21pm.

MINISTRY REVIEW from Ministry Committee

- Moved to May meeting.

COMMISSION REPORTS (reports attached)

CEC from Julie Lomax

- RE Registration is this Sunday (April 7th)

- Sue Davies' retirement will be celebrated at the 8am mass on June 9th with refreshments afterwards in the upper room.
- Fr. Paul found an assistant for Sr. Madeline, who will join PC next year.
- We officially have an All Saints rep = Melissa Collins
- Last business breakfast of the year was well attended.

CWC from Brian Pelz

- Working on budgets.
- Looking for volunteers for sacristans at the noon mass.
- Desmond is working on emergency procedures, but they're meeting with Fr. Paul tomorrow (April 3rd) and will present the information at the May meeting.

CSC from Carrie Tilton

- Charitable Contributions = the president has stepped down, but they'll vote on a new one when they next meet.
- There's a continual issue with the state of the refrigerators in the kitchen. There is already a sign on the fridge with rules, but the fridges/kitchens are still left in poor condition.
 - PC suggested other ways to resolve this issue, and Carrie will move forward.
 - Follow up with the building manager, Bob
 - Send a form email to all who use the kitchens
 - Follow up with the custodians to make sure supplies are always available (towels, cleaning supplies, etc.)
- Carrie suggested we begin to include the committee leaders in emails when we have discussions about topics that concern them.
 - Added to the May agenda.

ADMIN from Anne Lysaught

- Dave has a connection who's willing to review the energy efficiency of SMMP. Anne has contacted them and asked PC if she could go forward with the review. Council agreed and Anne will report in May.
- PC got the budget from Admin, but PC would like Admin to reevaluate fixed vs. "touchable" expenses and report again in May.
- The ductwork is complete, and Admin is now looking at the floor work for the teen center.

NOMINATIONS UPDATE from Joey Rose and Peggy Soeldner

- Tomorrow (April 3rd) at 7pm is the orientation meeting.
- Nominees attending:
 - Paul O'Neill, Jim Quinn, Chris Lupo, Terry Wagner, perhaps a youth representative Casey Fuller, and Anne Lysaught.
- Dan will try to find a second youth representative.

PEACE POLE from Tom Cordaro

- Moved to May meeting.

WHAT WE ARE HEARING

- Anne = Heard that parishioners were touched by the Knights of Columbus memorial mass. Someone asked her where the military display is now (downstairs on the bulletin board).
- Jim = Seeing new families at mass, so that's a good sign.
- Fr. Paul = Had a visitor who said he would love to come here, would look forward to coming to mass here. Good meeting.
- Mary = Fr. Jonathan's memorial mass was wonderful, heard lots of positive comments. Good meeting.
- Joey = Struggle with budget discussions, but happy to discuss.
- Brian = Heard that people love the hearing assistance device at mass.
- Carrie = Wanted to thank Anne for joining PC. Took her daughter to the rosary prayer service that Anne has been putting on—grateful that she started that.

The Council ended with a closing prayer at 8:57pm.