

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

March 14, 2023

7pm Meeting – Fireside Room

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES: Fr. Jim McNulty, Mark Tuttle, Denise Brady, Elisabeth Johnston, Megan Wolschleger, Terri Field, John Brady, Dan Vincent, Donna DeFavero, Deb Beaman, Renee Billotto, Steve Kraska, John Bodnar, Joe Bertrand

- I. OPENING PRAYER – Megan
- II. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES – Approved
- III. CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS
 - a. Liquor License for Speed Dating event 10/20/2023 motioned and approved.
 - b. April meeting timing – Currently scheduled for Easter week on Tuesday, April 11. Do we need to change date? No, we agreed to keep the date.
 - c. April meeting agenda – Goals & Objectives
 - i. Review current Goals & Objectives
 - ii. Brainstorm prior to next meeting and email Mark any thoughts/ideas. We will use as basis of conversation in the meeting.
 - d. Commission meeting minutes have been very helpful and effective in relating to the Goals & Objectives.
- IV. FR. JIM’S COMMENTS
 - a. Increase in Mass count overall, participation of Christian Service projects, and service and monetary donations.
 - b. Palm Sunday procession will include children, which was well received last year.
 - c. Family Masses have been well attended. If observance shows attendance needs to be increased in the future, consider combining different groups within RE, school, and CYO. It is nice to see children participate in the Mass and gets children’s family to Mass.
 - d. Appreciation Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, May 20 following 5 pm Mass. All volunteers are invited and encouraged to attend.
- V. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Christian Service
 - i. St. Vincent De Paul Chapter includes people who need assistance with rent payments or other expenses. Team members investigate the situation and resolve
 - ii. Those in need call the Christian Service office. Gift cards are used in lieu of food items.
 - iii. Neighborhood “library” house has been constructed to hold non-perishable food items will be readily and openly available to those in need. Location (on the parish campus) and other details are to be determined.
 - b. Education

- i. Easter egg hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 8 and all from the parish both RE and school families are welcome.
 - c. Evangelization/Welcoming
 - i. Prioritizing team's presence at the Fish Fry as well as before and after weekend Masses potentially inside the Parish Hall in addition to the Gathering Area to greet people and sign-up new parishioners.
 - ii. How do we connect with recently married couples to keep them engaged and get them involved after the sacrament of marriage? Committee is making regular effort for 12-18 months following the sacrament.
 - iii. Requesting approval on the proposition to showcase St. Edith parish spirit wear apparel samples. PC team approved. Discussion followed regarding timing of which two consecutive weekends to showcase the samples. Decided on Mother's Day weekend and following weekend (Appreciation Dinner weekend).
 - d. Seniors
 - i. Asking if safety railings can be installed from rear parking lot to the rear entrance of the Gathering Area? Fr. Jim will investigate and take into consideration.
 - e. Worship
 - i. Different readers for the relatively longer readings have been well received and keeps others engaged.
 - ii. Altar server training/participation has gone well thanks to Zelma Isele and her children who are mentoring younger/new altar servers. Zelma is training both RE and school students.
 - iii. Heather Shina continues to do a wonderful job recruiting young cantors and growing the music ministry.
 - f. Finance
 - i. Christmas Collection received surplus than what was budgeted, which is continuous trend.
 - ii. What percentage of overall monetary donations is Online Giving used? John Brady will report back with that number.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
- a. Trivia Night event for engaged and recently married couples went very well.
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Previous years dinner count was 800-850? This year's count has been 719, 550 (snowstorm), 732. Overall feedback is positive. Kid volunteers are bussing tables, serving drinks, delivering condiments, etc. Suggest kids wear nametags may be helpful.
 - b. During the summer months, is a Fish Fry Cookoff Festival within our parish families a possibility? Logistics may be difficult with fish but reconsider other food competition event.
- VIII. NEXT MEETING April 11, 2023 – OPENING & CLOSING PRAYER VOLUNTEER
 - a. Opening prayer – Dan
 - b. Closing prayer – Steve
- IX. CLOSING PRAYER – Terri