

Parish Pastoral Council meeting minutes
September 8, 2020

Present: Dennis Smith, Fr. Nick Glisson, Heather Skinner, Kristin Collins, Ceara Brencic, Nori Grimes, Ann Flemer (guest), and Norah Hippolyte

Opening Prayer was offered by Dennis Smith.

New Business

First item of business was the approval of the proposed parish plan and covenant.

Dennis invited Ann F. to discuss her proposed revisions to the document, Ann summarized the past few months of Finance Council discussions and Covid decisions. She wanted to be sure there was accountability and transparency as part of the document. Kristin asked Ann about other suggested revisions, Ann will make these to the document and return that to the Council. Fr. Nick reminded everyone that it is very likely that we will make a direct appeal to the parishioners in November and that is part of the reason for the covenant. Ann raised the issue that the covenant may not receive a favorable response. Ceara indicated that she liked the fact that this is a long term commitment, but she also believes we should be careful about singling out businesses or parishioners, and use broader language in the document.

The cover letter will conclude information about Time, Talent, and Treasure. Fr. Nick, who would like to see the phone tree revived, hoped that this would be a portion of the phone tree script, others felt callers might feel uncomfortable discussing the covenant.

It was decided that Ann F would make the final revisions, she stated that everything necessary was present in the document, it just needed to be presented along the lines of a business proposal. The agreed upon process for the soft launch is the council will approve, then send to the Parish Leadership Conference attendee.

Second item of business – appointment of a new Convenor

Dennis Smith has been the PPC convenor for two years, he feels that someone else should have an opportunity to be in that role. He nominated Kristin Collins, the members of the Council seconded the nomination and Kristin accepted the position.

Third item of business - Outdoor Movie

Fr. Nick provided an assessment of the Movie Night – about 30 people attended, he felt there needed to be more school family participation, it was not possible to start the movie until after 8PM because it was not dark enough, there were a few difficulties with the FM transmitter, but those were resolved. In the future it should be suggested that people bring a portable radio, people had to periodically start their car engines to keep the radio going.

Old Business

Roll Out of Just Faith – There are four groups meeting, there are using the Zoom platform to accommodate breakout rooms. There is good age range in ages and diversity of race. The program was underwritten by Dennis Smith and many people have contributed to it's success.

Mid-Year review of liturgies – There is a liturgy committee meeting on Saturday, September 12. On Sunday, September 13, we have scheduled the Teen Confirmations. People, up to 9, have been attending the weekday private masses. Andy is looking to do more with musical instruments since choirs are not allowed. Heather will be testing the morning assembly PA equipment which will be used for the Outdoor Masses beginning September 13.

Alternatives to the Parish Picnic – it was decided to discontinue this discussion.

New Pastoral Council members – We have two vacancies. Jen Welch resigned because her workload and kids at home is overwhelming. George Baranowski because he felt that the Council was a good fit for him. It was decided to ask for nominations from the parish community. The request for nominations should be in the email blast and in the announcements. The October Council meeting will be able to decide on new members.

Reports

Facilities – Ceara B. reviewed completed projects and those in progress. The Altar Cabinet project is complete, the lights in parish hall are working, the hall still needs to be completed and the floors and bathroom still need to be completed. The window that was broken in parish hall is out to be rebuilt (suggestion to file an insurance claim.) Many of the doors have been adjusted so they work properly.

The doors remain a safety and security issue.

New proposal put forward by Fr. Nick – possibly a monthly Town Hall meeting. These monthly meetings would be an event such as a talk. Fr. Nick is concerned that we hold together as a parish.

Also, the Covid Reflection groups begin September 14. To date about 5 people signed up.

Heather Skinner offered the closing prayer.