

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting

May 23, 2007

Present:

Father Barr	Al DiMattesa	Betty Ryon
Loretta Haring, Fellowship	Bill Price	Donna Wardrup, Rec. Sec.
Kathy Elder	Linda Kline	Ed Longo
Colleen McGraw	Mike Sopchick	Don Zukowski
Tom Cosgrove	Ruth Milano, Liturgy	Patrick McKenna, Youth
Gail Rivera	Steven Sabo	

Absent:

Tessie Ballard
Tom Neal
Dan Palumbo, Rel Ed
Bill Stehle, Building Committee

Meeting called to order at 7:15pm by Betty Ryon.

Opening Prayer led by Mike Sopchick.

Betty Ryon welcomed Ed Longo, Steve Sabo, and Gail Rivera, newly elected members of the Council, to the meeting.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the April meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Linda Kline to approve the minutes as written. Don Zukowski seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Pastor's Report: Father Barr reviewed his report with Council. A Cluster Meeting was held with Fr. Joe Cosgrove, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, and Fr. Mark Logue, Our Lady of Sorrows. The focus was on integrating pastors and deacons. They also discussed getting their respective staffs and Pastoral Councils together. Goal is to talk about areas that could be shared amongst the three parishes. For the new Council members attending, Fr. Barr explained the clustering process.

Old Business

Software for Geographic Study of Parish: Tom Cosgrove reported that he had purchased software for the geographic study of the parish. After reviewing the software, it was found to be too complex to work with. He has since found an alternative software product and will work with Donna Wardrup, parish secretary, to load it onto her computer. Tom Cosgrove explained to the newly elected members the idea that we are trying to reach the percentage of parishioners who don't attend Mass on a regular basis. The geocoding will allow us to determine location of parishioners by neighborhoods. A neighborhood captain" will be assigned. It was determined that there would need to be one captain for every fifteen parishioners. We would need to have approximately 150 neighborhood captains based on the number of families we have in the parish. Tom Cosgrove, Bill Price, and Colleen McGraw volunteered to help establish the roles, requirements, and resources necessary for the captains to perform their duties. The council will develop a list of candidates for approval and solicitation.

Parish Directory Update: Bill Price reported that he had solicited local printers regarding a new parish directory. The cost for 500 directories, 5 X 7, would be approximately \$1,200. There would be no photos in this directory. Bill also contacted Liturgical Publications, Inc., the company that produces our weekly bulletin. A sample directory had been sent to us and passed around to the Council members to review. Working with Liturgical Publications, our directory would be free provided the Parish agreed to extend its bulletin production contract with Liturgical Publications for an additional (and yet to be determined) period of time. There are a few issues to be worked out and Bill will report back at next month's meeting.

Grocery Certificate Update: Mike Sopchick updated the new members on the grocery certificate process. Ideas are needed to re-energize the grocery certificate program. Currently grocery cards are bought for Giant, Shoppers Food Warehouse, and certificates can be purchased for Food Lion. Safeway does not offer cards. However, the Safeway Club Card can be linked to Holy Family and we will receive proceeds. Escript, the company who manages this, has a website and the Safeway Club Card can be linked either on line or manually by the Parish's Grocery Certificate team. Announcements with Escript's website can be placed in the bulletin as well. Awareness needs to be brought to the parishioners about this program. Mike suggested having someone speak to the parishioners about the Safeway aspect of the program. Mike also suggested allowing parishioners the opportunity to sign up for this at the grocery certificate table. A flyer for the bulletin was also suggested. Mike volunteered to do a flyer. Donna Wardrup to check availability to when a flyer could go into the bulletin.

Building Expansion Progress: Jim Cush emailed Betty Ryon with an update on the expansion progress. Progress includes: Civil Engineers have begun surveying and are preparing to make their first submission to Anne Arundel County, and they are working to resolve an issue regarding the clay liner of the Storm Water Management Pond. Jim Cush is working with Matt Regan of the Archdiocese of Baltimore to hire an expert to design the kitchen. Council agrees that the progress should be placed in the Narthex bulletin board, in the bulletin, and on the website. Betty Ryon will forward the progress information to Peggy and Donna for publishing and posting.

Ministry Reports and Questions:

Youth: Patrick McKenna, Youth Representative for the Council, reported that the May 16th Youth/Parent meeting had a nice turn out. Ratio was 2-1 youth to parents. There were approximately 30-40 people in attendance. Patrick was very impressed with the meeting. Discussion was very open. Father Barr reported that he welcomed everyone to the meeting and said there were 47 people there. Chris Ashby, the Archdiocesan representative who facilitated the meeting, was very excited about the meeting. One hour was allotted but at the end of the hour those in attendance wanted to continue. Everyone felt the meeting was very productive.

Patrick also suggested that the youth representative on the council have a two year term instead of a one year term. That way the representative would have a better understanding of the council and their role. Council feels strongly that there should be an adult representative as well as a youth representative to the Youth Ministry on the Council. The Youth Ministry would have one vote but the two will be supportive to one another. Patrick will take this request to John Lantier, Youth Minister. Patrick will report back to Council by the July meeting, if not June.

New Business:

Focus of Council for next year: Betty Ryon reported that the building expansion will be one of the most important focuses for the Council. Three volunteers have come forward to help with fundraising. Council will act as the Development Committee. Finance Committee will work with the Council. Three fundraising companies have been suggested by the Archdiocese. A representative from each company will give a presentation at the July 18th Council meeting. Donna Wardrup will contact each company to ask for resumes and/or websites to review prior to the meeting.

The Youth is another focus for the Council. We, as a church, need to reach out to the youth in the youth ministry at Holy Family.

Pastoral Council Retreat: Betty Ryon feels that 100% participation is needed for this to be successful. Is it worthwhile and do we still want to have it? Substance of the retreat could be areas concerning the parish, i.e., cluster issues, bringing staff and councils of the parishes together or reaching those who do not participate in any church activities.. The consensus of the Council was to have a retreat. New members elected to the Council need to be given the handouts from last year's retreat. Father Barr asked all Council Members to email Betty Ryon with their two top priorities for the Council and focus of the retreat. Council Members will email that information to Betty before the June 27th meeting.

Pastoral Council Installation will be held after the 11am Mass on September 23, 2007.

Finance: Don Rakoskie presented the FY 2007-2008 budget to the Pastoral Council. Budget process was explained to Council. Income and expenses of ministries were discussed. A change was made to the budget concerning the Fellowship Ministry. Linda Kline made a motion to accept budget with the change. Mike Sopchick seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Donation: Mike Sopchick recommended the monthly \$1,000 donation be divided between Southwest Visions and the American Cancer Society. Southwest Visions is a community housing development committee in Southwest Baltimore city which helps to rebuild homes. The donation to the American Cancer Society would go towards cancer research and education. Mike suggested giving \$750.00 to Southwest Visions and \$250.00 to the American Cancer Society. Linda Kline made a motion to approve; Don Zukowski seconded the motion. As the Council's donations typically go to non-secular donees, there was some discussion on whether giving to a secular organization would set an unintended and undesirable precedent. After discussion, Council voted in favor of the donation.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Barr

Meeting Adjourned: 9:50pm

Next Meeting: June 27, 2007; 6:30pm at the Rectory.

Prayer next month is Liz Coyle and donation is Dan Palumbo.

Edits: DR, MS, BR, TC

Rev. 6/4/07 DMW