

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH  
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Approved November 17, 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Father Celestine Byekwaso, Jerry DeBruin, Jim Margetta, Pat Kosuth, Ann LaFleur, Nora LaPlant and Ryan Johnson.

**Absent:** Jamie Benson, Mike Folgert

1. Meeting was called to order in John Paul II room at 6:25 p.m. by Jim Margetta. Father Celestine led the opening prayer.
2. **Approval / Amendments**
  - a. Minutes from the meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 were approved as recommended by Pat Kosuth and seconded by Ryan Johnson.
  - b. Agenda for October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting – Pat Kosuth and Ryan Johnson asked to add items to the agenda. Jerry DeBruin made a motion to accept the agenda as modified and Ann LaFleur seconded the motion and it was passed.
3. **Public Participation / Correspondence / Information from Parish staff members:**
  - a. The council received a letter regarding the City of Marinette Christmas Parade. Jim Margetta will review the specifics of the parade and notify the council to see if there is an interest.
4. **Committee Reports**
  - a. **Decorating teams** – No major update or changes, preparations for November Mass in remembrance of those who have passed this last year.
  - b. **Hospitality Status.** Stewardship forms were collected and are being entered into the database by Nora LaPlant. Nora reported that response was somewhat limited, and that we need to do a second weekend. Father recommended that the ushers should be handing them out and collecting them after communion. After much discussion, it was agreed that a note per family should be sent to all those who filled out the form. Ryan Johnson will author the note with the message to let the responding persons that we received their form, are grateful and they will be reached soon by someone leading this ministry. This will be sent to the Nora and the office. Nora will ask for help with the mailing of these notifications and letters. Before November's meeting, the leaders of each ministry need to be provided the list of individuals who expressed an interest.
  - c. **Welcoming Committee.** It was agreed that we would get the list of people who expressed an interest in the committee. In the meantime, Elizabeth Kopish would send a note to all Pastoral Council members if there are any new members who join the parish. One of the council members would then reach out to the new member as a welcoming message. Father will also put something in the bulletin to request interest in the committee. In a previous meeting, a comment was made we need to do something like a pancake breakfast once per month like other parishes have done to get more engagement for our families on a regular basis.
  - d. **Finance Council and annual meeting results.** 2 items were brought up at the meeting from the audience. Soup and Sermon, can we consider a different time (after 6PM) for some of the weeks. No immediate action taken unless someone else owns this event. Stewardship forms – actions listed in 4b. Nora also updated the council on the actual amounts in repairs

to St. Joseph's Church for the roof. Those from our council were pleasantly surprised at our positive financial results from 2014/15. This changes our focus on several topics – including tabling the discussion on St. Joseph's Church.

## 5. Activities / Projects

- a. **Direction of the council.** Jaime was to bring some information on a survey discussion he wanted to initiate. The council agreed that we need to spend some time talking about our future vision and mission. The two items we agreed were critical are Growth and Better Participation/Attendance by existing members. Father recommended that the council defines two or three key points and confirms with the Finance council after the New Year. Jim recommended that we review all future items in the activities / projects making sure they are aligned with this direction.
- b. **Adult Faith Formation Options**
  - i. End of life discussion presentation was coordinated on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Ann for setting this up. Feedback was positive with about 35 people in attendance. Nora stated that the question and answer period was the most valuable. If there is interest in future meetings, we need to review the agenda beforehand.
  - ii. Jim provided the summary of the survey on next potential topics of speakers provided by the Diocese. Three items received the most interest so far. Next step is to send the survey to a larger parish audience using e-mail to verify interest. The next event would be planned after the Christmas season. Ann was asked to put together the list of tasks associated with planning speakers so others can take on these responsibilities. The council also thought the descriptions when advertising should be improved – headline descriptions. Pat agreed to help Ann going forward and also said she would use the community calendar to help publicize.
- c. **Steubenville Group Activity.** Jim updated the group on the participation in the Holy Hour the first Saturday in October. The group will be getting back together in the parish center in November to decide what service activity they would like to pursue.
- d. **Young Adult Leadership Group.** Ryan Johnson met with Fr. Brad of Holy Spirit/Resurrection Parish in Menominee to collaborate on the activity they have already started. It was determined that we would work together to rotate host sites for future meetings and align with the speaking events.
- e. **Church Directory.** Ryan Johnson has coordinated the dates/times for the pictures for the directory. The bulletin article has been run and it is clear what council members are required to do at the parish center while the pictures are being taken. Ryan stated that the sign up list is very open at this time. Father will ask Elizabeth to send out a reminder e-mail and will also speak to it this upcoming weekend. Jim will ask Marti Burkard to send a note to all parish families in the Faith Formation program. Father will send a list of groups to Ryan for him to schedule for group photos for the book.
- f. **Polka Mass.** Plan to book as part of the Parish Picnic in 2016. Jerry is going to keep in touch with Ken King about any plans for the Parish Picnic for 2016.
- g. **Long term need for a deacon.** Pat and Jaime were to provide an update and potential job description for future consideration. No update provided.
- h. **Music.** Future plans beyond just having a backup. Father reported that he asked the students at STAA for their interest. Jerry asked why the council thinks we need activity in this area. Jim and Ryan expressed that we have not changed in many years and that we have

heard that many of our younger families look to go to other parishes in the community because of the music.

- i. **Idea for a Christmas gift to the parish.** Pat Kosuth brought a book she is recommending we purchase and give to each family during Christmas week. The book is by Matthew Kelly and would cost the parish about \$750 for 500 books. The book would be great for daily reading for our parish family. The council agreed and asked Pat to proceed.
  - j. **New ideas for families and growing together.** Ryan Johnson suggested two new ideas. One to have a young art board and have supplies for young children to use and display in the church. Second, was having prayers for families called out during the prayers for intentions during mass. Each week have three new families would be selected. Details on how the families would be selected to be discussed at a future meeting.
6. **Pastor's report.** Father stated he attends the monthly meeting at STAA, the cemetery work is complete for this fall, and he is planning the anointing of the sick mass in the upcoming month.
7. **Next meeting. The Pastoral council will meet again on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.**
8. **Pat Kosuth made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ryan Johnson. The meeting ended.**

Respectfully Submitted by Jim Margetta