

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
(Including Finance Council)
August 4th, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Father Celestine Byekwaso, Jerry DeBruin, Pat Kosuth, Jim Margetta, Mike Folgert, Ann LaFleur, Nora LaPlant, Jaime Benson, Ryan Johnson. Finance council members Michelle Biehl, Terry Girard, Ken King

1. Meeting was called to order in the Parish Center at 6:35 p.m. by Jim Margetta. Father Celestine led the opening prayer.
2. **Approval / Amendments**
 - a. **Minutes from the meeting on June 2, 2015 were accepted via e-mail however, were not presented at the meeting.**
 - b. **Agenda for August 4, 2015.** This month the Pastoral Council met with the members of the Finance Council as recommended by the Diocesan guidelines for Parish Councils. Jim Margetta welcomed all the members who attended the joint meeting this evening. He asked if there were any additions to the agenda. As there were none, Michelle Biehl made a motion to accept the agenda as printed and Jamie Benson seconded the motion and it was passed.
3. **Meeting with Finance Council to discuss potential projects / needs by the Pastoral Council:**
 - a. **Annual Parish Meeting.** The Finance council usually sets the date and time for the Annual Parish Meeting. Michelle Biehl said that this year, the meeting will be held in September but no specific date has yet been set. A large portion of the meeting is to inform the parish at large about the finances and expenditures. This year there will be additional information concerning activities of both the Finance Council and the Parish Council. A list of topics to be covered will be prepared and given to Pam Meyers who will compose the handout given to the parish members. Jim Margetta will talk to Pam Meyers about a review of activities both past and future. A brief discussion ensued concerning the date, time, and possible refreshments. Ann LaFleur said she would like to have some feedback from those who attend the meeting as to what sort of programs might be proposed. A survey handed out at a Sunday mass to all those in the pews, however, might be more productive, Ken King suggested.
 - b. **Church Directory.** Jim Margetta explained the need for a new directory which would include photos of parishioners. Ryan Johnson talked about what the Parish Council had earlier planned with one photographer and a limited number of printed directories. Nora LaPlant said there is a photographer in Oconto Falls that specializes in such directories. Ryan Johnson will follow up and compare services and prices to what those which are being offered by the original source. Pam Meyers will be asked to locate the cost of the last directory published in 2010. Ryan Johnson will get a second quote from the Oconto Falls photographer as well.
 - c. **Nativity Scene.** Nora LaPlant provided samples of the future purchase and agreed to create a note for the bulletin to request donations to purchase the new Nativity scene. All were in agreement with this purchase and approach. Thank you Nora.

- d. **Ministries – end of life discussion and future speakers.** Ann LaFleur reported that a program coming up on October 13th will be the End of Life discussion provided by the Diocese. Ann LaFleur also gave all those present a flyer on the program as a preview. This idea to create a list of available items to hand out to the parish either at the annual meeting or at mass to get some feedback on future topics.
 - e. **Musicians – future thoughts and budgeting.** Father Celestine has made arrangements with a pianist in Wausaukee to step in when we are in need of a fill in musician. Susan Thornton teaches at St. Thomas and will be paid the same as our current accompanist. The group had a discussion around should we do this as part of a rotation to bring some new music and energy. No decision was made at this time.
 - f. **Polka Mass.** A polka mass is also being considered. Father Celestine will inquire of Pam Meyers to find out who played at previous polka masses for our parish and how to contact them.
 - g. **Parish Picnic 2016.** A parish picnic possibly in 2016 may be feasible. Ken King graciously volunteered to reconnect with some of the parishioners who had helped organize earlier picnics. Ken King and his wife chaired the event for a number of years and he explained how it was done. A picnic in 2016 would be held for socializing rather than fundraising. With that in mind, timing and activities would be planned accordingly.
 - h. **Full or part-time Deacon position.** Hiring a part-time or full-time deacon position was considered. A long discussion followed. Father Celestine stated that he has taken actions to make sure services required today are covered by the staff. Jim Margetta and Jaime Benson asked what services are we not doing that we should or could be doing to advance the mission of the parish and diocesan guidance given by the Bishop. The Bishop ultimately makes the decision, but the current job description of what the parish would expect of a deacon is not complete and needs to be rewritten or edited. Jamie Benson and Pat Kosuth will meet to begin work on a new description for a deacon including additional services that could be provided. Jim Margetta will then be asked to provide an outline letter for the Councils and Father Celestine to review before sending to the Bishop for future consideration.
 - i. **Other items before closing.** Father Celestine mentioned the upcoming 54 Day Novena (a part of Bishop Ricken's Teach My People to Pray initiative) and Jerry DeBruin asked about the cemetery skates that have been removed and are now in Al Demerath's garage. The cemetery is also in need of clean up after last week's storm. Wood resulting from downed trees may be donated to St. Thomas Academy for raffle bids.
 - j. **Next meeting. The Pastoral council will meet again on Sept 22nd. The next gathering for both groups will occur at the Parish Annual Meeting.**
4. **Ryan Johnson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Pat Kosuth. The meeting ended.**

Respectfully Submitted by
Pat Kosuth and reviewed by Jim Margetta