

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Members Present: Sandy Kane, Fran Teuber, Lisa Piotrowski, Geno Halberg, Tony Mailhot, Jeanne Hill, Mary Fox, Tony Jurgens, Fidelis Lindner, Denis Tappella, Fr. Jim Perkl, Fr. Allan Paul Eilen, Dick Wise, Mark Dittman

Guests: Don Gerlach representing Spiritual Life and Jordan Sampson, seminarian

Members Absent: Mike Wise, Pat Regan, Alli Steiner

Recorder: Mary Fox

Opening Prayer: Led by Fr. Jim

September 2009 Minutes: Motion made to accept; motion passed.

Annual Report: Feedback from Council members was positive. New format was easier to read than prior years.

Member Reports:

Mary Fox – School Advisory Committee

- Encouraged Council to respond to Rita’s invitation to tour the school
- Washington D.C. pilgrimage last week was a wonderful opportunity for many of our SEAS middle school students. Not only was it a historical learning experience, but a true pilgrimage deepening our children’s faith as they celebrated Mass daily and spent time understanding the Christian foundation of our country. Senator Johanns and his Chief of Communications, Terry Teuber (SEAS alumna) met with the group and spent well over an hour talking about how their Catholic faith influences their lives.
- Grandparents Mass was a big success. Early morning 6 – 8th grade retreat lead by the NET team followed up with over 325 people for Mass and lunch.
- Once again the school has “adopted” several service men and women.
- Children’s choir is off to a good start with many from the school participating.
- Rita is challenging students/families to have at least 85% of our entire student body involved in the parish (stewardship of time/talent) somehow. SEAS students already served at the KC pancake breakfast, the Fall Festival, NAPs, as well as children’s choir, lecturing, donuts and serving. Kudos to Rita and her team’s efforts!
- The Catholic Aid raffle is winding up...all were encouraged to purchase their tickets at the parish or school office.

Fidelis Lindner – Charity/Justice

- Participation in the Be Our Guest events is growing...83 attendees at the last dinner.
- The Kitui Delegation visit went very well. Great conversations on many topics including culture, economics, faith and faith formation, waste and water usage.

- Sharing & Caring hands is celebrating their 25th anniversary all week and parish participation is planned.

Jeanne Hill – Faith Formation Committee

- All programs are up and running.
- Parish families with children not enrolled in either faith formation or SEAS school will be contacted to encourage their participation in faith formation.
- Michelle is working hard with NET and is getting very good feedback.
- It is working out better with the K-5 in Seton Hall at the end of class. They are more “prayerful.”
- Tomorrow is the first monthly formation meeting for all catechists with a book rep answering questions about the text and giving out pointers.

Don Gerlach – Spiritual Life

- Blessings of the animals and the unborn monument both went extremely well.
- Committee reviewed the adoration chapel window design and are quite pleased.
- Committee is looking for recruits for vice chair and secretary...Penny Knoll, chair, has been filling multiple roles for a period of time.
- Good discussion around flu concerns. Our priests will reinforce alternatives to handshaking at Mass.

Tony Jurgens – Finance Council

- New financial system has improved the ability to compare expenses to prior periods.
- Finance Council will hold a special meeting at the school next week to determine required proposed building improvements.
- Council is considering the recommendations of the Agreed Upon Procedures Audit including the rotation of money counters. Council recommended discussing this recommendation with the current team and incorporating any suggestions they may have into the action plan.

Tony Mailhot – Stewardship

- Annual stewardship season was kicked off with the homilies this past weekend.
- Correspondence will be going out to all households with the theme “With God, all things are possible.”
- Team is leveraging best practices learned from last year’s consultant, but all work is being done in-house to save money.
- Team is working on NET exposure. Will be starting a “NET News” that will likely be published in the bulletin.
- Some committee members participated in an archdiocese stewardship training event. Recommend reading the book “Living Your Strength” and taking the quiz to understand how to best leverage your talents in stewardship.

Fran Teuber

- Waffle breakfast is set for this weekend. Prepared to feed 2x last year.

Denis Tappella – Parish Life

- SEAS school alumni breakfast will be held after 9:30 mass on 11/22/09. Looking for volunteers to help.
- Cinnamon Roll Sunday is moved to 11/8/09.
- Style show – all checks have been returned with the exception of one.
- Memorial Mass will be held 11/2/09. The Olsons and Barb Lutz will decorate and Faith will make copy.
- Rubber mats for dishwashers – will not purchase given tripping/safety concerns.
- Fall Festival – income was down \$8k from 2008. Raffle did not do as well as previously. A suggestion was made to make some changes for 2010 Festival.

Fr. Jim

- HHS Principal Tim Collins shared w/Fr. that 50% of HHS kids do not attend church.
- Fr. Jim is challenging the Council to develop a strategy around
 - 1) Engagement of new parishioners
 - 2) Engagement of our youth
- The next Parish Council meeting on Tuesday, November 17, will be dedicated to developing this strategy. Each member should prepare for this meeting by discussing these two priorities with their respective committees and come on the 17th prepared to speak to a) current efforts around these two needs and b) suggestions for improvement.

Closing Prayer: Let by Fr. Jim. Special blessing to Denis Tappella for his upcoming surgery.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Clare Room.