

Pastoral Council Minutes

September 6, 2018

Time: 6:45 pm Location: SMIC Hall

Attendees:

Staff

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fr. Nathan Reesman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Katie Schaitberger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jan Kolb
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fr. Andrew Infanger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rick Doll	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Immaculate Conception

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Catherine Yekenevicz (Trustee)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lloyd Uelmen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sue Nygaard (Chair)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacqueline Wulff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mary Swosinski (Trustee)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jean Franke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Falkner (Vice Chair)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kris Deiss (Secretary)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rafael Vela	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Saint Frances Cabrini

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anne Marie Danaher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Greg Jashinsky (Vice Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mary Herdrich (Trustee)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dave Gugg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joe Vespalec (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Randy Lucka
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dave Kohlmann (trustee)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lisa French	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sara Sauer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dave Zimbal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lynn Corazzi (Secretary)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Joint Meeting Topics:

- Opening prayer – Led by Fr Nate
- Approval of minutes – Minutes were approved subject to minor revisions.
- Updates from Fr Nate & Staff
 - Clarification of secretaries' duties for minutes, Jeanne Rude's role in sending, etc.

The location of the meeting generally determines which secretary is responsible for preparing and distributing meeting agenda and notes.

- The hosting secretary takes notes for the combined discussion and their council's breakout meeting.
 - The "visiting" secretary prepares the notes for their council discussion, and forwards to the hosting secretary.
 - The hosting secretary consolidates the combined session into one document and forwards the council as a draft.
 - Council members provide input and clarification as appropriate.
 - The hosting secretary makes recommended changes and publishes final minutes.
- Faith and Family Fest updates (Jan)

Preparations are proceeding well, with 13 teams registered. Jan requested council members encourage at least 3 more teams to achieve minimums. Target was 32 teams. An additional 15 volunteers are also needed. The committee will be reaching out to school families.

- Quick overview of planned fall stewardship drive materials (Jan)

Theme for this year's appeal is "Know Him, Love Him, Serve Him", and a letter from Fr. Nate will be going out mid-October.

- Quick stewardship totals update, both parishes, YTD for FY 18-19. Include enrollment numbers for SFC school relative to budget. Rick

For the first two months of the fiscal year (July/Aug), Immaculate Conception is on plan. SFC is \$11,000. School enrollment is 252, which is down 8 from a revised target and 18 from the original target of 270.

- Fr Nathan disclaimer about his document on unique parish focus

Fr Nate prepared a summary of potential unique parish focus for both SFC and IC parishes, which was to be discussed at the separate breakout meetings. Fr Nate clarified that this was a quick summary to be used as a frame work for discussion and would be revised as appropriate for each parish.

- Discussion of Current Church Crisis

Fr Nate solicited questions from council members related to the sexual abuse crisis confronting the Catholic Church. Council provided feedback, with perspective ranging from “this is old news” to this was very different. A key message from Council that the Pope’s silence was not helpful, and that Fr Nate should advise the Archdiocese that we would also appreciate hearing from the Archbishop. Fr Nate and Fr Andrew encouraged members to contact the Archbishop’s office directly, as the priest’s ability to be direct is somewhat limited.

There was discussion about how to respond to parish members who indicate they could leave the Church. Fr Nate offered that, if you leave the Church, where else would you go? The Lord’s teachings are His teachings. Another response was that our faith is in God, not exclusively with the Church. The Church, after all, is led by flawed humans who are also sinners.

Breakout meeting topics: Immaculate Conception

- Guest Appearance – Simon Weinandt spoke to the members about his proposed Eagle Scout Badge project. He is proposing erecting stations of the cross west of the community playground at an approximate cost of \$3,000. The Council approved his proposal subject to obtaining the necessary funds and addressing the safety concerns brought up by the members. Simon will need to obtain final approval for the project from parish staff as well as Mary Abel.
- Casa lease update (Rick) – The draft of the proposed lease is being reviewed by an attorney specializing in real estate.
- Planning the October parish listening and goal sessions:
 - Items needed for this discussion:
 1. Archdiocese parish summary report for SMIC
 2. Father Nathan unique parish identity musings draft
 - Process: review these documents, review parish accomplishments in last two years.
 - Answer these 2 questions:
 1. “What does the pastoral council identify as the top three priorities for the parish in the next one to three years?”
 2. “How should the two listening sessions be conducted in order to include the input of the larger parish in shaping the priorities for the next one to three years?”
 - We will finalize the format of the 2 sessions at the October Council meeting.

Discussion – Focus & Mission - Sue, Kris and Mike had met to discuss and come up with some possible goals. Sue gave an overview of that discussion. With the assistance of Fr. Andrew, the members came up with three goals for the listening sessions:

- Outreach to Barton and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Learning how scripture and tradition are applied to current social issues.
- Transforming our prayer lives into a valued relationship with Christ.

The goals were shared with Fr. Nate when he joined the group.

- Committee Reports:
 - Catholic Formation – no additional update
 - Finance – no additional update
 - Human Concerns – Barbara Extence has agreed to head up Family Promise. The committee is also looking at how to best serve single parties, ie., widows, elderly, shut-ins, etc.
 - Prayer & Worship – Jean reported that with our new renovation, cleaning instructions need to be documented and shared with those doing the cleaning. They also discussed distribution of communion to the elderly and handicapped. Christmas is just around the corner so Xmas trees in church was also discussed. (Jean did mention that she doesn’t do windows!)
 - Stewardship – There will be a “pet blessing” on October 13th

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Breakout meeting topics: Saint Frances Cabrini

- Mini-Witness: Jan requested all Council members to prepare a mini-witness story to share how we are continuing to grow and share in our faith. Other leaders will be asked to show why our community matters to them. The objective is to use these stories to build connections to SFC. One of these stories will be included in the bulletin every other week.
- Discussion I of mapping 1 to 3 year goals and priorities for SFC.
 - Needed materials for this discussion:
 1. Archdiocese parish summary report for SFC
 2. Fr Nathan unique parish identity musings draft
 3. 2016 materials provided most recently by Mary Herdrich in her August 3rd email.
 - Process: All members are to come with:
 1. One observation gleaned from any of these materials, and
 2. One Scripture passage they believe sheds light on the materials/their observation
 - Propose next steps.

Discussion

Each Council member shared a perspective gained from the information provided (1-3 above) and a related scripture passage. The discussion initially focused on the declining numbers for both church and the school, with members recognizing the challenge and offering positive observations.

Discussion shifted as a question was posed as to how to get parishioners involved. The challenge is that SFC offers a lot of ministries and services, but overall parishioners do not volunteer as much as they say they want to. One Council member tied this together by suggesting that community and family is important, and that people want to be bigger than themselves. Another offered that the Greeter Ministry was intentionally introduced as a very low involvement service, and still has not gained traction.

Other discussion demonstrated the different perspectives council members have. School families and non-school families, older and younger. For example, one member noted that we are losing kids at school because we do not focus on what makes Cabrini special, and even within the school, the elementary students do not see the middle schoolers, and vice versa. In the Narthax there is not a lot about the school.

Fr Nate's unique parish identity offered that formation is the focus and identify for SFC. As the Council discussed this point, there were different interpretations of what "formation" meant. Was it the school, faith growth (the Mass and sacraments) or community giving?

The wide-ranging nature of this discussion demonstrated the challenge ahead of setting priorities. From the last listening sessions emerged the priorities of fixing brick and mortar issues. These have been largely implemented, leaving the community and liturgy the upcoming focus. No specific next steps were identified.

- Committee reports
 - Cluster councils – Joe and Gregg will coordinate coverage for upcoming sessions.
 - Faith Formation – No meeting. Katie has a list of people who have not signed up for Faith Formation and will be following up.
 - Finance – Closed last year with a deficit of \$21,000. The parking lot is behind due to recent rains and in the curbing. The delay is not expected to add additional cost.
 - Human Concerns – Met last week. Received a calendar of events. Most are self-running so there are no major requests except for more awareness. Fr Nate challenged the committee to find gaps in SFC ministry, and suggested one may be serving the elderly.
 - Prayer and Worship – No meeting
 - School – Noted there is a five year plan from the principal. How can SFC market in the area without impacting Holy Angels?
 - Stewardship – Sept 14 meeting planned. TV's in parking lot entrances are on hold until the parking lot is completed. Next year will be asking for a booth at Faith & Family Fest. Upcoming discussion will be about the right timing to re-engage new members.
 - Together Event Summary (Lisa) – The school auction is being re-branded as a social event, and is scheduled for March 2, 2019. The idea is to make it broader than the school, and the theme is still undetermined.

Next meeting: October 4, SFC

Time: 6:45 pm