

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH
THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2017
7:00PM BOLAND HALL**

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT - Brent Harris, President, Michael Gawley, Kathy Moritz, Charles Olson, Kevin Ortmeier, Lisa Seidl, Brett Sims, & Michele Zadalis

ABSENT: Mike Rasmussen

OTHERS PRESENT – Fr. Tom Fangman, Ron Hawkins & Justin Vossen

CALL TO ORDER & OPENING PRAYER: Brent Harris opened the meeting at 7:00pm. Fr Tom led members in a prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Brent asked for approval of the March 2nd, 2017 PPC Minutes. Mike Gawley made a motion to approve the March minutes as written and Charles Olson seconded the motion. All approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: Justin Vossen from the Parish Finance Committee presented a report on the 2017-2018 budget for. A few highlights included in his report: 4% increase in non-teaching staff along with 1 1/2 % increase in teacher salaries as well as more for education and experience, 6 % increase in tuition (mostly due to too low of an increase in previous year's budget & increase has been shared with school families), income may increase up to 15% but many unknowns come with the new Activity Center such as utilities, 150th Anniversary celebration expenses and new part-time facility manager position were also included. Discussion on the budget followed.

No other committees had reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Meitler/Divine Renovation: This discussion was tabled until meeting with priests takes place.

Discipleship Maker Index Survey: A meeting of the parishes that participated in the survey in early Spring met at St. Patrick's Church in Gretna. Brent attended and summarized some of the results. He has paper copies that PPC members can browse if interested on what feedback was gained. Fr. John also made some YouTube videos to learn more. Brent will share the link. This feedback is to be used as another tool for direction and conversation along with the Meitler Study results. The main purpose of it all is to reach out to unengaged or partially engaged parishioners.

Theme Implementation: There was discussion as to what impact the theme "Seeking True Happiness" has had on the parish. It is difficult to measure but the turnout at Easter Masses, ALPHA (90 participants) and Women's Circles have all exceeded expectations. Space and childcare are still issues to some attending. The following are tasks for the coming month theme implementation:

1. Incorporate theme in the cellphone announcements at the beginning of Masses each week. Wording could be, "In order for all of us to seek true happiness, please silence your cellphones." Kathy Moritz will communicate this to Terry in the Parish Office.
2. Priests will continue to bring up the theme in their homilies.
3. Charles will email leaders about theme implementation in their activities. Kathy will send leaders' contact list to Charles.
4. Mike Gawley will develop another list of quotes to use in the bulletin to share with Terry K for publishing.

5. Think of t-shirt with theme though RF and school students for upcoming school year. Ron Hawkins will ask RF Committee and Kevin Ortmeier will communicate with Deb Brown, teacher in charge of school t-shirt project.

NEW BUSINESS

God's Agenda: Brent expressed the fact that Parish Council needs to align with God's agenda more. Each member shared how personally they feel we are aligning with this agenda. Mike expressed the importance in loving God. Kevin said he feels it is a priority to make faith first in your life. Ron said he thinks it's most important for everyone to use their talents to help evangelize our faith. Fr. Tom feels that God's agenda is to have an abundance of life through his son shared together and to trust him. Michele Zadalis feels it is important to use our talents to help others. Lisa Seidl feels we are called together to serve God. Charles expressed that in our busy lives, it is important to take time to be quiet and listen to God. He is working to get us all to Heaven. Brett Sims believes it is important to help others. Kathy felt that all the ideas already expressed were important in God's agenda. Brent reflects back to Genesis where there was no shame or distrust. He felt that for us to have a relationship with God and each other, we must trust. This is also important for the Parish Council to work with the Parish.

St. Patrick's Mission Statement/Vision: Discuss at the next meeting maybe revise, rethink and shorten up current statement. Brent gave all a CD to listen to from Matthew Kelly before the June PPC meeting.

Alcohol Use Requests: Lisa Seidl sent an alcohol request form from the "Women of St Pats" sent March 15th, 2017 that was received after the March PPC meeting. The Women of St. Pat's planned to have a gathering on April 23rd, serving wine. Since this is new group, they did not know about the 60 days in advance requirement. They do not know how many will attend. Since PPC would not meet again before their event, the request was sent via email to all members of the PPC for approval. Michele Zadalis made a motion to approve the request and Kathy Moritz seconded it. Request was approved.

Michele Zadalis made a motion to approve Alcohol can be served at any or all Women's Circle Meetings at St. Pat's for the remainder of this year. Brett Sims seconded the motion. All approved.

Brett Sims suggested that PPC revise the Alcohol Request Form to give more details. Brett volunteered to make revisions and bring to the next PPC meeting for approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fr. Tom announced that the School Board and RF Committee will delay elections until August. Both the board and RF Committee have had candidates show interest and will be notified that the delay will take place.

Kevin felt that there should be representation to and from other groups like School Board, RF and Finance Committee, as there has been in the past. Kevin will reach out to Bill Pulte to ask someone to attend PPC meetings. There was discussion as to how to get lists of current leaders of groups and how to keep the list updated. Lisa will look into PDS, the Parish database to see if there is a way to generate and share specific lists regularly.

There being no more business, Brent Harris asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:55pm. Mike Gawley made a motion to adjourn. Kevin Ortmeier seconded the motion. All approved. Fr. Tom closed with a prayer.

Next meeting date Thursday, June 8th at 7:00pm.

Kathy Moritz, Secretary