

Church of the Divine Child Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Parish Conference Room
Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Present:

Fr. James Bilot – Pastor
Fr. Matthew Hood
Ernie Bridgnanan – President
Beth Stawasz – Christian Service
Tess Noonan – Co-Education
Jodi Ann Micallef – Worship
Gordon Brooks, Andrea Swierlik, Dave Paluszewski – Representatives at Large
Camryn Pieknik – Youth Representatives

Absent:

Pamela Szpytman – Secretary
Marilyn O’Brien – Communication
Marti Biscaro – Co-Chair Education

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 and opened with a prayer.

June 19, 2017, meeting minutes were approved with 1st and 2nd motions to accept.

Commission Reports:

Christian Service: Report provided by Beth Stawasz

- 1) Fall clothing drive; possible November date and possible partnership opportunities with Men’s Club and/or Saint Vincent de Paul. Background; Sacred Heart and Divine Child Parish both have Fall and Spring clothing drives.
- 2) Home-bound ministry is currently serving approximately 4 or 5 people; brief discussion on limited numbers, potential to work with Worship Commission to revisit how this ministry serves parishioners

Communication: Report provided by Father Matthew Hood

- 1) Discussion on Thursday Meeting Advancement Office
- 2) Effort to improve Parish and the schools’ websites continues and targeting a year-end implementation date
 - a. Goals for the website include; user friendly, format that includes functionality for schools, all schedules linked (Parish and schools), evangelization will have a presence on the website (more than data). Father Matthew is working with Karen for a more streamlined and simple website

Education: Report provided by Tess Noonan (Co-Chair)

- 1) Faith formation night delayed until Oremus has concluded (approximately a couple of months)
- 2) Father Solanas Casey Faith Formation Night event scheduled for November 14th in Church after Novena
- 3) Evangelization ideas continue; Bible Study, couples event, etc.
- 4) Also, looking for ideas in the New Year

Worship: Report provided by Jodi Ann Micallef

- 1) Next meeting is scheduled on October 11th (no meeting held in September)
- 2) Christmas falls on a Monday this year (obligation to attend and celebrate the 4th week of Advent and Christmas), more to be provided in the bulletin in a few weeks

Finance/Stewardship: Report provided by Father James Bilot

- 1) The Financial Report was presented and reviewed and will appear in an upcoming Parish Bulletin
- 2) \$1.5 million renovations to the high school science building, an outbuilding, and concessions were approved by the Finance committee. Parish Pastoral Council discussed the renovations and unanimously approved as presented by Fr. Bilot.
- 3) The lease for the lot (property) to the south of the high school expires in 2018. Father is prepared to discuss/present to City Council in early 2018 to extend the lease. The property currently is used by Divine Child for parking and athletics. Divine Child leases the property, and provides the soccer goals, upkeep of the property (grass cutting), and the stripping of the soccer field.

Representative-at-Large Reports

- 1) Gordy - requested Parish Pastoral Council meeting minutes be provided with enough time prior to the next scheduled meeting to review and prepare for the next meeting. Would make for a more efficient meeting.
- 2) Thank-you to Father Matthew Hood for the blessing prior to the elementary school cross-country team traveling to their meet at Huron Meadows in Brighton.

Youth Report

- 1) Observation that some non-Catholics are accepting the host during high school masses. Good observation, will be appropriately addressed.

Old Business:

- 1) Welcome Kiosk; hopeful to begin in November / Christmas to welcome families (current, new) and answer questions regarding the Parish (i.e. events, activities, programs, etc.). Small discussion on possibly having a volunteer or paid position at every Mass to perform this function in the New Year. More discussions prior to next meeting (Fr. Bilot).

New Business:

- 1) Unleash the Gospel; Recommend to read and review. Father's Bilot and Hood to attend a Convocation soon to discuss / learn more. Also, Father Hood has been writing about Unleash the Gospel in the Sunday Bulletin.
- 2) Evangelization Initiative; more to come from Father Hood.
- 3) Parish Pastoral Plan; discussion on how to address. Everyone needs to read Unleash the Gospel and Pastoral Letter (lengthy but easy read). From these two documents look to see what section speaks to you and look for opportunities to improve / contribute to the document. Looking to identify items that need to be in the Parish Pastoral Plan. The document, provided by Ernie, is the document we should be working from (online version should be removed).
- 4) November Meet and Greet; Parish Calendar will be reviewed for potential dates.
- 5) Rite of Acceptance for RCIA is scheduled for November 12th
- 6) Catholic School Council; working to promote a "school plan" (capital campaign for Catholic education).

Closing prayer, meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Next meeting – Tuesday, October 17th at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Paluszewski