

REPORT – PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY MAY 21, 2015
6:30 PM

Attendance: Fr. Charlie Garza, Geoff Unger, Dot DeWitte, Rey Blancarte, Suzanne Pacheco, Walt Graner, Johnny Martinez, Angie Reynolds, Susan Bonner, Patrick Manning, Steve Fournier, Clement Kichuk; Finance Council representatives: Judy Tixier and Susan Curran.

Prayer: St. Martin de Porres.

Adoption of Minutes from April 16, 2015: motion to approve by Geoff, seconded by Johnny, passed unanimously.

Welcome to Incoming Members

- Geoff explained the logistics of Pastoral Council meetings, and suggested that new members refer to the parish website to read the Pastoral Council norms.
- Introductions followed, with each person mentioning his/her participation in parish ministry.
 - Clement: Pastoral Council experience several years ago, associated with Boy Scouts, and a background in management consulting.
 - Johnny: ACTS, Pastoral Council, Knights of Columbus.
 - Steve: Knights of Columbus, Faith Formation, ACTS.
 - Patrick: Lector, ACTS, Knights of Columbus, This Man Is You.
 - Dot: Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Sacristan, Prayer Blanket Ministry, Pastoral Council, Pastoral Plan Committee.
 - Walt: Knights of Columbus, ACTS, Pastoral Council, building expertise.
 - Rey: Knights of Columbus, Usher, Pastoral Council.
 - Geoff: Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Pastoral Council, Acolyte, discernment for diaconate (Class of 2016).
 - Suzanne: Usher, Pro-Life, Pastoral Council, Pastoral Plan Committee.
 - Angie: Food Pantry, Lector, Usher, Catechist.
 - Susan B: Catechist, Faith Formation, Lector, ACTS, summer mission trips.
 - Susan C: Lector, Catechist, Theology of the Body, Finance Council.
 - Judy: Parish Business Manager, Finance Council, “et al”.

Update on Mailbox/RR 12 Access

- Several residential mailboxes were installed in the middle of the church access road to RR 12. This prompted a meeting with the Postmaster, during which he was informed of possible plans for future expansion of the church facilities.
- The mailboxes have been relocated, but this issue will not be considered resolved until they are permanently installed.

Church HVAC Replacement

- The present system is failing and needs to be entirely replaced, due to its flawed design. With hot weather approaching, the need is urgent.
- Two solutions were investigated: a less costly “band-aid” approach, and a more costly package unit which would be more energy-efficient, reducing energy costs, and which would provide long-term service. Any replacement work needed in the future would be quicker.

- During the replacement, weekend Masses may prove uncomfortable for a short period. Daily Mass would be held in the Adoration Chapel.
- Geoff made a motion to approve pursuing the replacement of the HVAC with the package unit; seconded by Walt; unanimous approval

Ways for PC Members to Get More Input from Parishioners

- Father Charlie considers the Pastoral Council to be the “eyes and ears” of the parish. He opted to utilize the appointment model because of his desire to select persons with involvement in specific and varied areas of parish life, and to thereby provide wide representation.
- Several ideas were discussed to elicit more feedback from parishioners.
 - In another parish, pictures of Pastoral Council members are posted so that they can be recognized and approached more readily.
 - A form of digital feedback may appeal to younger parish members.
 - It is important for Pastoral Council members to make themselves available, and to encourage comments, both positive and negative. Informal talks with individuals and small groups would facilitate this.
- Fr. Charlie emphasized that he does not want to have a “rubber stamp” council; an honest and respectful exchange of ideas is crucial for the council to fulfill its duty as an advisory body. Final decisions on parish matters are Father Charlie’s responsibility, and he will always do what he feels is best for the parish.

Parish Fun Run

- Father Charlie is open to the idea of a Fun Run next spring or early summer, if there is sufficient interest. These events are a lot of fun, and build community, but they involve a lot of work.
- Father will ask, from the pulpit, if anyone is interested in assuming complete responsibility for organizing and carrying out this project.

Membership Terms and New Officers

- The new Pastoral Council consists of nine members, each serving a 3-year term. Eventually each year, there will be 3 new members coming on, and 3 members leaving as their terms expire. Father Charlie will talk individually with members regarding office positions of Chair, Vice-Chair and Recorder.

Goodbye to Outgoing Members

- Fr. Charlie thanked Geoff and Dot for their service of the past 4 years.

Next Meeting

- June 18, 2015 at 6:30 PM.

Closing Prayer

- Offered by Geoff.

Adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dot DeWitte