

SACRED HEART PARISH
PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday November 14, 2017

“The Holy Spirit transforms and renews us, creates harmony and unity, and gives us courage and joy for mission.” Pope Francis

Members Present: Father John Forbes, Erica Davis, Edith Kaylor, Sharon Landers, Christine Mimms, Joe Ptaszek, Beth Renwick, James Richmond, Jeff Sylvester, Eric Westley

Guest Speaker: Justin Ball

Excused: Fr. Javier, Fr. Philips, Ann Lambrecht, Tom Fagan, Mary Beth Griswold, Keith LaComb. Keith LaComb notified the Secretary of his resignation from the Council as of November, 2017.

The meeting was opened with the Council prayer led by Beth Renwick at 7:07 pm.

October Minutes were approved as submitted. Motion by Erica Davis, supported by Sharon Landers.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Forbes reported that all is well at present. He referenced ministry events such as the Elphie Sale and Coats for Kids have brought people together in positive experiences. He expressed his desire that there will be an expansion of programs and activities, such as the nursery and pre-school to serve families and welcome all to our parish community. He informed us that the Bishop has let him know the status of the clergy appointed as administrators in June prior to the Bishop's appointment, would not be changed (from Administrator to Pastor) until the next regular appointments are announced in the spring of 2018. Father also stated the annual report of parish finances will be published soon but if there are questions about this information before then, it is available to parishioners by request. The delay is not the result of any problem or reluctance to make the information available. There are no financial problems. Father also addressed questions posed regarding access to the expanded parking lot, sidewalks from the lot to doors to the church and the installation of automatic door opening systems at these locations. He also

addressed the status of Perpetual Adoration and reaffirmed his desire to clarify and publish guidelines for this important ministry.

Financial Report: Tom Fagan was not present but Father Forbes reported that the parish finances are in order. Beth Renwick reported that there is a line item in the budget for the Pastoral Council. These funds may be used to support the Dynamic Catholic book giveaway at the Christmas Masses.

New Business

Meeting Time: After a verbal survey of members regarding their availability for meetings at various times on the second Tuesday of the month, Joe Ptaszak agreed to contact members individually about their personal schedules and report back on his findings. Erica Davis commented that alternating meeting times is effective for some meetings to accommodate different schedules.

Bylaws Update: The action to align Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council guidelines with the Diocesan Administrative Manual began with Beth Renwick pointing out the discrepancy on the number of council members the manual recommends and the number in the current bylaws. It was decided following discussion that the Bylaws for SH Pastoral Council would establish the Council be made up of 9 elected members (3 groups of three elected successively, each to serve three year terms), 3 members appointed by the Pastor and the chairs of Finance Council and, potentially the Stewardship Council. The method of election is to be established before the next election in 2018. It was also determined that the previous title of Pastoral Advisory Council would change to Pastoral Council as used by the Diocese and conforming with the Finance and Stewardship Council. This change does not change any of the areas of responsibility or activities of the Council.

Annual Plan Goals This agenda item was not addressed due to time limitations.

- **Mission Statement:** At the request of Beth Renwick, Justin Ball presented information related to mission statement value, formation and use by organizations. Justin Ball also provided additional printed information to add to that previously provided related to the Council's

consideration of a new mission statement for Sacred Heart Parish. Members were asked to continue to read and consider information in this process. Father Forbes asked that we look at this from the perspective of developing a more active, engaging, and welcoming program for parishioners, families and visitors to our parish events, ministries and liturgies.

- **Stewardship Council:** Joe Ptaszek reported on his and Ann Lambrecht's research and contact with Our Lady of Lourdes parish to gather information related to the development of a Stewardship Council for Sacred Heart Parish. Their work will continue through contact with Saint Matthew Parish in Charlotte as another example of a meaningful Stewardship council that is benefitting that parish. Beth Renwick read aloud the statement of purpose for the Stewardship Council from the Our Lady of Lourdes web site.

Updates/Announcements from Members

Upcoming Dates:

Pastoral Advisory Council Meeting – Tuesday January 9th 7:00 PM

Closing Prayer was led by Father Forbes at 9:13 pm.