

Minutes of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
June 12, 2019 7PM
Annex of the church

Members:

ExOfficio Member:

Father Bob Spencer
Lori Yankoski

Parish Council Representatives:

Kathy Stocchetti, Rick Sowell, Nate Garn, Melissa Madrigal, Lance Solaroli, Sheila Horan,
Mary Egan, Rick Gausmann, Darlene Heinz, Lindsay Lockett
Young Adult Rep: Andrea Lemieux

Committee Members:

Debbie Gausmann: Formation; Larry Kervella: Youth Ministry Representative, Dave Stallard:
Worship; Rick Gausmann: Knights of Columbus; David Keneally: Social Justice; Rick
Gausmann: Community; Paul Gottschlich: New Evangelization

Members Absent:

Parish Council Representatives:

Frank Grim, Claire Clasen, Barry Yachem (excused)
Lori Yankoski (excused)

Call to Order

Opening Prayer and reflection: Paul Gottshlich

Jaxon Topp Eagle scout project:

Jaxon gave a nice presentation on his project to build a Gaga pit for the parish. This is a game pit where people play a variation of dodge ball inside the pit. Jaxon is working on procuring the necessary funding (estimated at \$700). He is currently looking for donation of material or discounts on materials. He plans to fill the pit with dirt or sand (if he can get it donated). The boy scout troop will maintain the pit once it is in place. Jaxon believes that this would be a popular addition for recreation for the youth and may help encourage them to attend programs at the church.

Discussion ensued about safety of the project. It was suggested that perhaps the Knights could add a safety perimeter around the pit to provide a soft-landing area. It was also suggested to mark the area where the pit will be placed so that people can see where it will go and that it fits in with our planned space. The project was accepted. Debbie Gausmann will notify Jaxon of the Councils decision.

Faith Formation: Rebuilt Pages 129 - 170

The reading for this month covered – making the message matter, and from the ground up (small groups). There was consensus that Father works on and provides good homilies. Father believes that the scripture is enough of a focus and that he doesn't need to speak on special issues. We have several small groups at St. Kateri (note that St. Kateri started out built on the house church model). The house churches that we started with have evolved so that we have many small groups (some are still our traditional house churches), but we also have Mother's group, Men's group, Women's Bible study, as well as small groups that do particular ministries, and recreational/social groups like bowling. As we have already discussed a group that may need work is the young adult range. This is a broad group and so it is difficult to reach all in the group since interests are varied. For example, there could be a focus group for young professionals, working mothers, married couples, singles, or a focus group dealing with pro-life issues. We need to consider and reflect on what we are called to do.

Approval of Minutes – May minutes were approved

Old Business:

Parish Council Elections: Meeting with candidates, Election results, Called to Serve update:

The diocese will be updating the Called to Serve document “soon”. A small group from the council had a good information meeting with the candidates before the election, and the election went smoothly. The new elected members are Mary Egan, Rich Gausmann, Darlene Heinz and Lindsay Lockett. Andrea Lemieux will be the Young Adult representative.

Report on Harmony retirement facility and their needs:

It appears that a lay person is leading the service at the facility and that many Catholics who want to receive communion are not receiving it. Father Bob and Terri will look into this further.

Committee Reports:

New Evangelization: Paul Gottschlich (Nate Garn)

- Picnic went well. It was held inside due to the weather (grounds were very wet, though Sunday was a lovely day). Some people did go outside to eat/play. The mass attendance was up from the previous year (310 this year compared to 280 for last year)
- Medical equipment: parish is looking for people who are willing to loan out medical equipment that they have but aren't using – like wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, etc.

Community: Rick Gausmann

- Community Life: Anyone using the kitchen equipment needs to be sure to clean what they use – especially the grill and the popcorn machine,
- Prayer Chain: This ministry was started at St. Kateri in May 2015 with only 5 members on the prayer team. Since then we have grown to 18 prayer chain members and have prayed for over 300 prayer requests. To put someone on the prayer chain, send email to Sheila Horan or the parish office can forward requests to Sheila as well.

Social Justice: Dave Keneally

- PORT: Ray Mineck is organized and ready to go forward with PORT for this fall.
- KAIROS: Had a one-day event and will have a reunion on 6/22. There are now priests assigned for Sussex I and II. The names will be inserted here, and they have already visited the prison.

Formation: Debbie Gausmann

- Dave Ramsey program is being offered for a second time this summer and is doing well. More are signed up for this session and a lot of young people are coming. It runs June and July.
- Hope Undimmed has started. Denny McDevitt is leading the group. They are hoping more people will attend.
- Vacation Bible school is being planned for the summer. Lance will be helping with the program.
- Fall Plans:
 - Adult Faith Formation fair to showcase what is being offered
 - That Man is You in the summer and in the fall
 - Studies for Monday Adult Faith Formation will be Vatican II followed by a scripture study of Exodus and finishing with The Mass by Bishop Barron

Youth: Larry Kervella

- Young Neighbors in Action (YNIA) will be July 14-19. This is a High School workcamp. There will be some meetings. The first on June 22 at the Norfolk Union mission to feed the homeless, and another the end of June. St. Kateri had the largest Confirmation group of any of the attending parishes at confirmation this year.
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- Just 5 Days will be June 16-22. They are going to Tennessee.
- Covecrest will be July 21-27 (faith formation camp).
- Plans for the new Youth Leadership (YL) team will be at the August 24th meeting.
- Graduation Mass was Tuesday 6/11 and went well.
- Fundraising has gone well. The challenge is to get the parents involved
 - Yard sale netted \$1300
 - Car wash \$1100
 - Outback Super Bowl dinner \$1400
 - Talent Show \$2500
 - Bingo \$3000

Knights of Columbus: Rick Gausmann

- Charter Presentation and Installation of officers will be Saturday June 22 at 10AM. They currently have 40 members and two others pending transfers. The parish is invited to the ceremony
- The St. Kateri Knights have received STAR Council status

Administration/Facilities: Lance Solaroli or Lori Yankoski

- Roof of the main building is still a priority, but quotes are hard to get. The church will go with the one estimate they have and also have a water test performed to find leaks in the roof.
- Committee is looking at finances, organizing cost data for projects and prioritizing projects
- Next topics are assessment of the Annex, and future planning
- Stephen is no longer working for the parish. The parish will be advertising for a new maintenance technician.

Worship: David Stallard

- Prepared for Pentecost. The mass went well.
- St. Kateri's Feast day is on a Sunday this year. Plans are underway to have a reception after each of the masses. Follow-up will be done with the mass coordinators and with Maureen (Community Life).

New Business:

- **voting provision for the bylaws:** Barry will write up the procedure followed for this year's parish council election. This document will be reviewed to be used for future elections and will include any provisions for absentee voting.
- **Council members attendance:** Input was requested on how to handle absences as mentioned in the By-laws. If people can not attend a Parish council meeting, they should contact the secretary to inform them about the absence. It was suggested that since each of us takes this service seriously the only absences that will occur are excused absences (work travel, illness, etc.). If an elected member finds that there are time issues with serving, they should remove themselves

from the council. If Committee members need to miss a meeting, they should find someone in their area to substitute for them or at the very least submit a report via another council member.

- **Retreat:** It was decided that a fall retreat would be of benefit. We have completed work on our Vision, Mission, and By-laws and are now ready to move forward. Debbie will work on dates for the retreat. It may be as simple as a Friday evening/Saturday morning.
- **Bicycle Club:** The bicycle club is not affiliated with St. Kateri (no liability). It's just a group of people who will be doing some biking together.

Pastors Remarks:

- The arts and environment committee has done a great job preparing the worship area for Holy week, Easter, and Pentecost.
- We need to work on young adult groups
- Father would like the parish to be bringing in more funds, but we are doing better than most other parishes. The online giving seems to be helping
- Father is open to new ideas and ways of having people make connections in the parish
- We will be getting a Deacon. This will not pose a financial burden on the parish. There will need to be some adjustments made when the deacon is at mass – will work with the mass coordinators.

Action Items:

- Debbie will inform Jaxon Topp of the council decision for his project
- Father Bob and Terri will follow-up with Harmony Retirement community to see how we can meet the needs of Catholics there
- Debbie will look at setting dates for the retreat.
- Barry will make up a document for what needs to be done for parish pastoral elections.

Closing Prayer – Our Father Adjournment

**Next PPC meeting: September 11, 2019
(Rebuilt pages 171-204)**

Volunteer to lead opening Prayer: Ricky Sowell