

Minutes: Sacred Heart Pastoral Council

October 14, 2018

Members present: Fr. Steve Dublinski, Aurora Horstkamp, Jim Lincoln, Kevin Owens (Chair), Eric Patera, Mary Schweitzer, Charlotte Snekvik, and Charlotte Worthy. Also present: Bill Engels, and Mary Sutherland, Parish Secretary.

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Setting up Commissions and Committees: We need a reporting stream to maintain communication.

Faith Formation: We have a board that oversees all areas. The pastoral council just needs the minutes, or a summary of them; they do receive the minutes each month. The Vocation Ministry falls under this commission.

Liturgy & Worship: That commission has formed and meets regularly. The council receives the minutes. A summary would be better. Altar Society is under this commission.

Community Outreach: Bill Engels is supposed to be the chair of this very large area. Francy Bose will help him, and he needs several others. This includes the Social Justice Ministry, Knights, Catholic Daughters, Meals on Wheels, Helping Hands, PREPARES, the St. Francis Guild, and Marketing – a category that encompasses Art Walk, Lentil Fest, Oktoberfest, the website, social media, and the bulletin. The existing groups will just need to give a summary of their activities to the commission. We need a Marketing committee to work on outreach (the community activities listed above) and advertising.

Finance & Administration: Our parish Finance Council advises Fr. Steve on parish finances, budgeting, large expenditures, etc. They send status reports about parish finances to the Pastoral Council. But we also need committees in areas such as Capital Campaigns, Stewardship, and Maintenance.

Taste of Sacred Heart Ministry Fair:

The Pastoral Council will have a table where they encourage people to sign up for committees like maintenance (including plumbing, electric, gardening, etc.) advertising, capital campaign, etc.

Members will staff the table, bring cheese, crackers, fruit, or muffins for people who visit the table, and circulate around the room wearing name tags.

Everyone who signed up should be called immediately after the fair to tell them that someone will get in touch.

There will be a brochure that includes all the existing groups, new committees, volunteer opportunities, etc. People can check off what they are interested in and write in their contact information. Fr. Steve's homily will focus on Stewardship, especially the Time and Talent aspects. The ushers will hand out the brochures during the homily at all Masses. The Ministry Fair will only be held on Sunday. Attendance at 4:30 Mass will probably be light due to the game.

It would be good to have a short stewardship video on our website. The Youth Group members might like doing that as a project. Fr. Steve will talk with Hally Rohla, Youth Ministry Coordinator.

Public Sanctuary:

At an Interfaith meeting that Fr. Steve attended, the DACA students asked if any churches in Pullman could be used as sanctuaries during ICE raids. These students are nervous because of immigration raids on the Pullman Mexican restaurants this summer. If students don't have papers they need someplace to go during the day to make sure the law is followed. They are not asking the churches to do anything illegal, just to have a safe, lockable room to shelter people. ICE cannot take anyone away unless they have a warrant for a specific person.

The UCC Community Congregational Church agreed to be a sanctuary church. Fr. Steve is concerned that people will show up at the Catholic churches during a raid even if they have not agreed to be sanctuaries. The staff would like training to know what to do if that happens. The Holy Family Room and parish office building are both lockable and have bathrooms. We need to know more about liability, etc., and have input from the parish.

There will be another meeting about the issue, and Pastoral Council members will be invited. The group is also looking for help with communication, etc. Several Social Justice Ministry members have experience in this area and are willing to help.

Church Building Plans:

Building Committee: The original Exploratory Committee members were asked if they are interested in being on the Building Committee. David Gunderson, Rich Heath and Steve Austin will do it. We need at least two others, including women. Mary Sutherland will give Fr. Steve the names of several people who volunteered during the building survey.

We also need a subcommittee to run the capital campaign. Kevin Owens will help with that.

Fr. Steve noted that the survey showed a 50/50 split between those who would rather build on a new site or tear down and remodel onsite. A lot of people noted they would like to see the current church preserved as much as possible. No one was opposed to removing the annex, social hall or parish house. The architect Fr. Steve spoke with this summer said the church building is worth saving if we can. Many of its features cannot be duplicated now without prohibitive expense. It all depends on feasibility after looking at the blueprints and structure.

We are still actively looking for land in case we can't save the church. A lot of the land near the proposed south bypass is not available since the property owners are hoping values will rise if the bypass goes in.

Whatever happens we need to start raising money now.

Next meeting: Sunday, November 11, 9:45 am.

Submitted by **Mary Sutherland.**