

Minutes: Sacred Heart Pastoral Council
October 13, 2019

Members present: Rob Cassleman, Fr. Steve Dublinski, Lorraine Farrand, Aurora Horstkamp, Jim Lincoln, Kevin Owens, Eric Patera, Mary Schweitzer, Charlotte Snekvik (Chair) and Charlotte Worthy.

Also present: **Mary Sutherland**, Parish Secretary.

Old Business:

Schedule for Commissions' presentations. Members approved this schedule: **Faith Formation**, Nov. & March, **Liturgy & Worship**, Feb. **Community Outreach**, Dec. & Apr., **Finance & Administration**, Jan. & May.

Reports:

Oktoberfest: It made more money and there were more people this year. The Knights and Catholic Daughters each made \$847. The music was awesome. Denise Snider and the Auf Gehts Band performed at no charge. It was good to have families there. Next year we need more space for dancing!

Liturgical Minister Retreat: Eucharistic ministers, outreach ministers, lectors, ushers, and musicians met the morning of September 21. Fr. Steve gave a reflection on the fundamentals of liturgy, and groups of ministers discussed the ministry, then they had lunch. It went very well, and will be held every year.

Pastoral Council Retreat: All the above members attended the pastoral council retreat on Saturday, September 28. They came up with some short and long term goals.

Short term goals (1-2 years):

1. **Physical Building:** Decide what to do, begin fundraising.
2. **Cultural:** Begin to reach out to Spanish speaking community.
3. **Sex abuse crisis:** Develop a long-term strategy.
4. **Safety committee:** Support their work to improve safety and security of parishioners.
5. **Catechesis for parents and grandparents.** Help them teach children about the faith.
6. **Ecumenism:** Establish a closer relationship with other Christian churches, pray together.
7. **Stewardship:** Emphasize stewardship as a way of life.
8. **Welcoming:** Do a better job welcoming people.
9. **Vocation Ministry:** support the current ministry in its work of educating parishioners about vocations.
10. **Parish Directory:** figure out how to publish a new one.

Long Term Goals (3-5 years)

1. **Spanish Mass:** Have Spanish Mass every Sunday, and more than that.
2. **Ecumenical:** Possibly exchange preaching, work together more.
3. **Break Ground:** Begin building somewhere.
4. **Sex Abuse:** Have evidence-based help for people.
5. **Stewardship:** Integrate it into parish life.
6. **Liturgy:** Possibly have a webcast of the Mass, and use other technology to enhance it.

New Business:

Building Committee update: Fr. Steve and Kevin Owens met with the landowner again. Some adjustments were suggested. Negotiations continue. They will ask for a 180 day feasibility study instead of 120 due to the holidays.

The building committee is planning to bring in large contract firms to estimate how to adapt the current church buildings, as well as find out if the new land is suitable to build on, and what the cost would be. The parish has \$545,000 in the building fund, \$500,000 is needed to buy the land, and the rest can be used on studies. And, the parish auction committee has set a goal of raising \$40,000 toward the studies.

A couple additions to the list of problems with the current church building are that the steeple needs work and there is a crack in the outer wall of the annex foundation behind the bookshelves in the parish library. Classroom safety was discussed. The safety committee is working on emergency plans, fire and CO detection, etc. The question of whether some of the classrooms should continue to be used needs to be decided.

The council members all agreed that the parish should go ahead with the two studies, of building on the new land, and of the current buildings. The results will be presented to the parish.

At this point the option of completely tearing down and rebuilding on the current site isn't feasible because we can't get any nearby property and it would be very expensive.

Upcoming Events: Parish auction and lasagna dinner, Saturday, October 26, 5 pm.

Pastor's Remarks: The pastoral council retreat went very well. We have a parishioner who agreed to be on the council as a representative of the Hispanic community. Her name is Alejandrina Amado. (The previous parishioner decided her English was not strong enough.) We would like a youth member. Teens who need leadership training are ideal. The faith formation board and Caritas committee would also like youth members. It would also be helpful to have a young adult (millennial) on the council. There is a big difference in the generations, and we need the different points of view. We have members from the Silent Generation, Baby Boomers, and Generation X.

State of the Parish Report: The council has committed to making this report annually. Council Chair Char Snekvik will read the report at each Mass the weekend of October 19 and 20. There will also be paper copies available and we would like to make a video of it to put on the website.

Next meeting: Sunday, November 3, 9:45 am.

Submitted by **Mary Sutherland**.