



MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 17, 2019 PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
ST MARTHA'S CHURCH – 6:30 – 8:00 PM

In attendance: Fr. Fred, S. Cayford, M. Colombo, P. Gallant, M. Guerin, K. Arel, P. Moses, W. Sawyer

Not in attendance: J. Bacon, J. Heenan, E. Hewitt, B. McDermott

Staff in attendance: none

- I. Opening Prayer
- II. Approval of Minutes: Council accepted minutes of last official meeting (November 15, 2018). Marie made one attendee name change and sent amended minutes out immediately.
- III. Old Business:
 - A. Evangelization Session in Advent: see minutes from Nov 15, 2018 meeting (presented to PC just prior to Jan 17, 2019 meeting) for some debrief of the December Advent session (brief summary at January meeting: small turnout and low participation of Parish Prayer and Service organizations during follow-up discussion session in St Mary's Hall. Themes were: *Involvement* (opportunities for Service) and *Being Invitational to our Community and to Others* (drawing others into our Community and our Ministries)).
 1. We resolved that we'd like regular sessions within each Liturgical Season (Lent, Ordinary Time and Advent) and that we need better communication to parish members and to those participating in the discussion sessions after the prayer session.
 2. Committee for Lenten session: P. Moses, M. Colombo, M. Guerin, P. Gallant, S. Cayford. Dates being considered were Wednesdays (original idea: 3/27, with snow date of 4/3).
 3. Theme for Lenten Session: *Faith in Action and Social Justice & Peace* (using Committee ideas, our ongoing efforts (Journey in Faith program, Youth Ministry Matthew 25:35 Meal, and Outreach team) and presenters suggested by our Parish Social Justice and Peace group for fellowship discussion in the Hall after the prayer session). One suggestion made at our Pastoral Council meeting was the work being done for Haiti.
 4. With regard to communications, we agreed that we needed more weeks of notification in the Bulletin, direct contact with parish Prayer and Service teams, and to contact Dave Guthro for help.
 - B. Parish Webpage:
 1. Knights of Columbus have a gentleman who manages their webpage for them. Paula or Father will reach out to him for help.
 2. The parish needs a connection between the webpage, our Facebook page, and Bulletin.
 3. We need a way to highlight our Bulletin items of importance on our homepage.
 4. Father Fred agreed to arrange a meeting to discuss all of this and perhaps put a plan together for improvement actions.

C. Remaining Opening on the Pastoral Council: We discussed soliciting help from Carolyn (new RCIA graduate?) or from Beth (young-family-age parents). Mary informed the council that a parent who attends St. Mary's may be willing to fill the empty slot on the council. The slot is for a person who attends St. Martha's but continued efforts to fill the opening with someone from St. Martha's have not been successful. The council and Fr. Fred agreed to go forward with this person. Mary will follow up.

D. Requests for fundraising:

1. Father will approve all appropriate requests. Use of narthexes for advertising events overall has been better recently but requires monitoring.
2. Bill Sawyer will publish the fundraising guidelines to the Council. All requests will now go through Father Fred and will use an updated form.

IV. New Business:

A. Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI): Disciple Maker Index. Mary participated in a Webinar offered by CLI.

1. First "to do" is to publicize heavily, including the use of parishioner emails that we already have, and gathering additional email addresses. Paula will follow up with Rosanne to find out if we ask for new parishioners' email addresses when they register.
2. We will have survey hardcopy available and boxes for handing in completed surveys.
3. We should make a concerted effort to go after the young. Pastoral Council should ask friends, neighbors, and young people if they have taken the survey.
4. Volunteers on weekends: make sure each member in a married couple and every young person take a survey...not "one per family"
5. Steering committee for Survey: Mary, Bill, Pat
6. The council may use its every-other-month gathering (after the close of the survey) to do some data sift and gain some additional insight but data analysis will be done by a committee of the parishes in our vicariate who are taking the survey with us.

A. Parishioner Idea: Parishioner Well-Being Committee (Friendly Visitor, Safety, and other):

Mary explained that a parishioner suggested the formation of a committee to oversee parishioner well-being, which might encompass the Friendly Visitor program discussed in previous meetings, ministries that reach out to the sick or bereaved (Quilt Ministry and Shawl Ministry) etc. Marie will follow up with the Quilt and Shawl ministries for thoughts and how they get info on where the need is. In addition, the council discussed:

7. Eucharistic Ministers are providing friendly visiting in addition to Holy Eucharist, but we may have a wider need for friendly visiting and for volunteers and structures. The Knights also do this. Part of work Marie will do is to work with Catholic Charities on these topics as she has done with Friendly Visiting (FV) for us in the past.
 1. For Friendly Visiting there is training and there are many simple guidelines but training and guidelines are required as we all need to be educated on for work with the young and adults who require help that focus on respect and behavior.
 2. In general for Friendly Visiting, short visits are best.

3. What about our Masses and Communion Services: Do we need to be able to do more and in different settings (nursing homes, other?)?
4. Could/should we publicize our service and prayer groups and their offerings under a parish umbrella of “Parish Well-Being”?
 - a. Evangelization Sessions
 - b. Social Justice and Peace programs and services
 - c. Bereavement Quilt/Prayer Shawl/EM services
5. Training and “belonging” questions raised:
 - a. What training does the Diocese offer and what services would lectors or Eucharistic Ministers, etc. require?
 - b. Do individuals serving the Parish need nametags,
 - c. Do we need contact lists of parishioners in these services who are willing to be outbound?
 - d. How do we learn about those in need if we don’t get calls about them? Nursing homes and hospitals are reluctant to reach out (HIPAA)
6. Suggestion: Start small, figure out issues, and begin with some training and volunteers and then tune
7. Get information and ideas from Activity Directors (people who run our scheduled events and programs: organizations who use our church spaces for meetings—Weight Watchers, Food Pantries, etc. as well as the Senior Center in Wells/Ogunquit, and various local outreach programs), people who serve homebound/shut-ins, police (elder abuse, scams), EMTs.
8. Do our people need nurse visits?

V. Father Fred Updates:

- A. Increased Offertory Campaign: brief discussion by Father Fred on this topic. He again reviewed the purposes of the diocesan campaign, and the parish decision, with Finance Committee, to have envelopes available in church pews for local improvement/repair projects in each church.

VI. Closing Prayer

Next Meetings:

March 21, 2019: Regular Council Meeting at St Mary’s

April 18, 2019 (needs to be changed, as is Holy Thursday): Next working session, at St Mary’s

May 16, 2019: Joint Pastoral Council and Finance Committee meeting (location?)

June 20, 2019: Next working session, at St Martha’s