

ST. BRUNO PARISH  
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES  
February 17, 2015

Members Present: Fr. Ralph Gross, Paul Hoffman, John Mezydlo Jr., Pat Seegers, Scott Vandenhouten, Carol Malaney, Joe Kuenzli, Louise Diodato

Members Excused: Fr. Chuck Wrobel, Jerry Dorff, Steve Paquin, Amanda Borth, Lynn Haugner

Visitor: Rita Borowski

Approve Previous Minutes:

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2015 meeting with the following correction: The names of the people who received Thank You cards from the Council should be included in the minutes. Motion carried.

A. Old Business

My Parish, Our Future Appeal – A little over \$2.4 million in pledges have been received. A mailing was sent to school and religious education families who had not yet responded; about \$13 thousand was pledged due to that one mailing.

Parish Goals

1. Two drafts of the organization structure have been distributed. Some revision is still necessary based on the Ministry Booklet—some ministries were missed in the organizational chart. Rita expects to have the revisions done in a week or so.
2. The Ministries and Committees have given Rita all the information she needs. She is checking quotations and getting appropriate approvals. She is now getting the booklet ready to request bids from printers.
3. Right to Life Memorial Subcommittee of Paul, Scott, and Louise will meet with Ernie Meyer soon.
4. Assessment Phase of the Transition Initiative is on target.
5. John will continue to work on this goal of engaging 19-35 year-old parishioners and will report at the March Pastoral Council meeting.

B. New Business

Pastoral Council Nominations: The terms of Carol, Lynn and Paul are expiring. Since each can serve successive terms, April 10th is the date for these Councilors to decide if they will continue for another term. Father Ralph will include Pastoral Council service and nominations in the homilies of April 18th and 19th. Councilors will begin to call nominees April 27th.

Men Who Cook Auction is April 18th. Each Pastoral Council member usually gives \$15-\$20 to purchase a gift for the auction. Pat volunteered to find gift ideas. Each committee should also donate a gift.

Synod District Gathering was attended by Father Ralph, Father Chuck, John and Paul and five other members of the parish. John gave a report. Parishes are encouraged to work on Evangelization at Sunday Masses in addition to Mission and Leadership. Parishes annually submit statistics and a report to the Archdiocese that is used for Archdiocese planning. The collection of all this data drives the Archdiocese action plan. Rita will be attending a similar gathering. John wants to encourage the Archdiocese to expand its definition of 'deaf and blind' parishioners to include people with disabilities and the elderly.

US and Pontifical Flag display is a concern of some of St. Bruno's parishioners. A petition was circulated and about 50 people signed it. The concern is that these flags are "currently relegated to the back of the church in a corner near the Reconciliation Room. This seems disrespectful and does not reflect the honor due these important symbols of American Catholicism." Father Ralph told the Council that liturgical law does not allow the US flag or the papal flag in the sanctuary (the steps are part of the sanctuary) and no other flag can be displayed taller than the US Flag. The Pastoral Councilors are referring this petition to the Prayer and Worship committee because it is a liturgical decision. Louise will take this to the next Prayer and Worship meeting. Paul will contact the petition organizers to inform them of the progress of their petition.

May 8th is the date of the next social with St. Paul's and St. Bruno's Pastoral Council members, Finance Committee members, and staff. It's St. Bruno's turn to host.

#### D. Transition Initiative

Rita distributed a report, "St. Bruno Catholic Parish, Pastoral Council Top Three Feedback Items." The report presents the top three themes she has gotten as feedback from St. Bruno committee members, staff, and parishioners between October 2014 and January 2015. These were specific to perceptions of the Pastoral Council. The report is attached.

Several councilors expressed a strong desire to see all the data before strategic planning. Rita understood the concerns and will work to fulfill the request. Her focus for this meeting was to articulate and hopefully discuss the specific Council themes rather than to present a large amount of information. She also explained it is taking significant time to compile everything confidentially while still holding forums. She will work to get the information out to all before March 7th if possible. All agreed what could get done would be done and shared.

#### E. Pastor's Report

Father Ralph handed out a written calendar of events involving our parish or both parishes. Please see the attachment to these minutes.

#### F. Ministry Reports

APC: next meeting is April 29th

Christian Formation: no report

Communications: no report

Human Concerns: no report

Prayer and Worship: Has planning for a retirement party for Karen been started? Yes, the parish staff is planning this. The date is May 31st, after the 10:30am Mass.

Marilyn Herbert is retiring from liturgical decorating. Prayer and Worship committee should form a subcommittee to take over decorating the Church.

School: no report

Stewardship: The Chilli Dinner is February 21st.

There is some confusion about the New Parishioners enrollment. It's supposed to occur on the third Sunday, but sometimes that weekend is the second Saturday. These events need to be coordinated better.

Buildings and Grounds: work is being done on the heating programming in the church.

Finance: support is down a little but St. Bruno's is fortunate to receive a \$10,000 grant from Catholic Community Foundation to help with tuition assistance for needy families. We have received this grant for the past three years.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm

Next meeting: Tuesday March 17th at 7pm

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Diodato, substitute recorder

Feb 23, 2015 revision