# Pastoral Council Minutes – January 9, 2019

#### Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Pat Buehler called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Tim Khoury led the opening prayer.

**Present:** Dcn. Sandy Sites, Pat Buehler, David Topp, Ray Gross, Terry Brecklin, John Walker, Matt Hoffa, Lisa Kovaleski, Joe Gonzalez, Matthew Lehner, Tim Khoury **Excused:** Jill Lehnen,

**Approval of Minutes**: The December Minutes were approved prior to the meeting via the email approval process.

#### Message from the Chair – Pat Buehler

- <u>Stewardship and Discipleship Focus Areas.</u> Liaisons should continue to promote discussion about the Focus Areas at the committee level. The concepts of Stewardship and Discipleship should serve as a lens for all the work done by a committee. We need to get better at explaining what we do and how it fits into Stewardship and Discipleship.
- <u>Monthly Pre-Mass Presentations</u>. Representatives from Pastoral Council will address the parish the weekend of January 26-27. Pat Buehler will prepare talking points so that the theme of the message is consistent. Those who volunteered to present are:
  - Pat Buehler Jan. 26 4:30 pm
  - Ray Gross Jan. 27 8:15
  - Dave Topp– Jan. 27 10:30
  - Matt Lehner Jan 27 5:30 pm

All members are encouraged to present at least once during the year. There will be a sign-up sheet every month. Terry will keep track of who has presented.

• <u>Other Communication Efforts.</u> In addition to the presentations, we discussed placing information about the council in the bulletin along with member's names and contact information. Pat encouraged members to fill in as Greeters where and when we can. Be sure to wear your name tag!

#### Finance Council Update – John Walker

- <u>Church Sound System.</u> The new mics are being used and the sound has been rebalanced. We have reduced the number of people who are able to tweak the system.
- <u>Vestments.</u> 2 parishioners have donated some new vestments for priests and deacons.
- <u>Stewardship Mailing</u>. The return rate (411 out of 1569) closely mirrors last year's return rate at this time of year.
- <u>Budgeting</u>. The budgeting process has begun. Teri Weber has asked departments to prepare their 2019-20 budget estimates.
- <u>Legacy Fund</u>. The council reviewed feedback from the Archdiocese regarding the guidelines. The Finance Council anticipating that the fund will be open for for contribution in the near future.
- <u>Building and Grounds.</u> An update on the roles and responsibilities is being drafted.

• <u>Holy Water Fonts.</u> Two additional fonts are being installed at the doors on either side of the main entrance doors. No new fonts were purchased, and we will incur no labor costs as we are installing two that were in storage and the installation will be by the maintenance department.

## Disability Awareness Update – Dave Topp

• Disabilities Awareness is now a subcommittee of the Human Concerns Committee. In his role as liaison to Human Concerns, Dave is assisting Kurt Roskopf in developing a plan for education and action. Dave updated the council on what has been discussed to date.

## Parish Director's Report – Deacon Sandy Sites

- <u>Amazing Parishes Minute</u>. The message for leaders is to resist the urge to avoid conflict. Rather than shying away from a situation, it is best to face an issue directly and talk through it.
- <u>Staff Updates</u>. Barb's rotator cuff surgery went well. Gerry is back to work fulltime.
- <u>Request for Input and Affirmations on Advent and Christmas</u>. Please reflect on your Advent and Christmas experiences and send your affirmations and suggestions for future Advent /Christmas Liturgies to Deacon Sandy or Barb.
- <u>Councils' Congress.</u> Pat Buehler, Ray Gross and Joe Gonzalez will be attending the February 2 meeting with Deacon Sandy. Norms revisions will be the focus of the meeting.
- <u>Succession Planning</u>. It is important to anticipate vacancies instead of waiting until they actually arise. Members who have a term ending this year should think of encouraging parishioners to consider volunteering to be on the council.
- <u>Remember to Save the Date</u>. The Council/Staff Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 23 at Good Shepherd from 8 am until approximately 3 pm.

#### **Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

• Pat Buehler lead the closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.

## Reminder

Opening Prayer Schedule: February-Lehnen; March-Topp; April-Walker; May - Kovaleski; June - Brecklin

St. James is a vibrant, welcoming Catholic community journeying towards the fullness of the Kingdom of God through worship, formation and service.