

Parish Pastoral Council January 26, 2012

Present: Fr. Lou, Eric Ertzner, Frank Schaad, Pat Ewen, Joyce Navary, Ericka Young, Margaret Hendrick, Robert Flores, Lori Mingloski representing the Youth Council. Staff: Sr. Ann, Jim Ayres.

Absent: Mary Hartsell, Karl Stafflinger, Lesha Berkel.

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Joyce.

The November minutes were accepted with the following addition: It was noted that during the discussion of capital improvement projects at the October meeting, it was agreed that a list of projects to be reviewed would be made available to the Council. Such a list would be presented at this meeting by Tom Keesler, Chair of the Facilities Committee.

Lori Mingloski gave a report on the many Youth Ministry activities:

- 1) Youth Camp – July 7 & 8 (2 spaces left).
- 2) Super Bowl of Caring – collecting non-perishable goods on Super Bowl Sunday.
- 3) Feb. 4 – Krispy Kreme donut sale – 4 locations.
- 4) Presidents Day – tubing at Wintergreen.
- 5) Frank Runyeon presentation – making/serving desserts and working with “crew.”
- 6) Fish Fries each Friday during Lent – Youth fund raiser.
- 7) Hunger Awareness Dinner – April 22.
- 8) Confirmation retreat – new location; worked well; cooperative event with 8 other parishes.
- 9) Marched for Life in DC – bad weather/good experience.

Fr. Lou commented that this was the first time the Youth Council presented to the PPC. Joyce agreed it was a very good idea.

Facilities Comm. report (**Tom Keesler**) - distributed the committee's Standard Operating Procedures, which states the purpose of the group. Sr. Ann suggested it was time to update the procedures with the edition of the Business Manager. Jim then explained how he worked with this committee (basically, when an issue arises, Jim takes it to this committee; if they don't have the resources to resolve it, we call in the “experts” (those with service contracts with us etc.)).

Tom then distributed a list of projects completed since 2006. He then used the repair of the church roof as an example of what process they follow and the manner in which projects are drawn up, bid and awarded.

Tom distributed a budget from 2009/2010 to, again, demonstrate the process they go through to establish an annual budget.

Tom offered the following as potential “next projects” for PPC to address:

- 1) A building in the back to house the Knights (if they chose to participate in the project), the Food Pantry, storage, etc.
- 2) Replace the windows in the school.
- 3) Replace the windows that have “clouded” in the worship space.
- 4) A cry room/addition to the worship space.
- 5) Replace the carpet in the worship space (it is 23 years old).

A question was raised regarding how successful the Capital Improvement collections have been. Jim explained that we budgeted \$1000 per month since they began in July, but have actually collected \$16,560 through January 15. This is almost enough to cover the entire cost of the Hall floor (about \$500 short).

Sr. Ann suggested we look at the demographic study that was done for the Church before projects are finalized. It showed only a 3 -4 % growth in the Parish. We should consider this *modest growth before additions to the church are considered.*

Robert asked, “Who is responsible for long range planning?” The short answer is, “The Parish Council.” However, Fr. Lou provided a more complete answer. The vision of our future must start with the Pastor. He would work with the Parish Council, Finance Council and staff to establish: “Where we are now; where we are going.” Fr. Lou suggested a retreat with representatives of those groups to begin to review and discuss these issues.

Sr. Ann reviewed the Thanksgiving and Christmas assistance provided. Bridget Blakemore coordinated this effort. An accounting was provided listing the number of families helped, the gift cards provided, clothes, backpacks, etc. Three specific agencies were also helped. 16 Parishioners served as advocates for the families and agencies, helping to coordinate the delivery of food and gift cards.

Sr. Ann indicated that they will also do Easter baskets. While more families are in need, it is difficult to identify them.

The manner in which families are identified vs. how families come to our Food Pantry was discussed. All food recipients at the FP are “cleared” by CCHASM.

Sr. Ann reported that the coordinators of Pass It On met with the Hope Center in Petersburg to discuss using their facility for future PIO events. They were agreeable to working with our group, but can't offer their building (it's got roof repair needs) at this time.

Sr. Ann gave a Haga Foundation update. She outlined the Board structure and their method of identifying and assisting families. They are only considering "in house" needs at this time.

Sr. Ann reminded the Council that as budgets get tighter and tighter (and additional demands are placed on our resources) it is critical to begin to establish priorities across the various ministries. This was one of the conditions of the Haga Foundation funding part of the Justice and Peace Ministry this year. If that funding is needed again next year, it (1) may not be available from the Foundation; or (2) the Foundation may choose not to fund J & P. If those funds are not available, budgets will need to be reduced in other areas.

A Ministry Fair is being planned. **Joyce Navary** is working with Fr. Lou.

Fr. Lou mentioned that both Tom Keesler and Bill Berkel contribute enormous numbers of volunteer hours maintaining our facilities. Bill has now evolved into our Parish Bookkeeper and it's working out very well.

We have sold 81 bricks so far for the Memorial Garden (130 are needed to go around the fountain).

Jim discussed the six month financial report that appeared in the bulletin. There are four key elements:

- 1) Our total income is covering our total expenses. Good news.
- 2) However, our Sunday collection money is down 12% (third year in a row). Bad news.
- 3) The Capital Improvement collections have gone exceptionally well.
- 4) Our Diocesan Appeal contribution was almost \$25,000 (we get almost \$5000 back).

Eric said he would email all PPC members about participating in the Stations of the Cross during Lent. The two remaining open dates are **March 9 or March 23**.

The next meeting is February 23, 2012 at 7 pm.

The meeting was closed with a prayer.