

Divine Mercy Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2018

Attendance: Doris Champagne, Donna Darey, Dave Ehret, Mike Lachnitt, Dave Sanning, Liz Sanning, Janet Schnoebelen, Joe Spillane, Margie Swanner, Father Bill, Deacon Bob, LuAnn Glaser

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM. Father Bill led opening prayer.

The first item for Old Business was the discernment process of the vice chair. Each member present reflected on their talents and the reasons they would be a good vice-chair, as well as the things that might get in the way or prevent them from being a vice-chair. Each member then shared their reflections with the council. It was discerned that Dave Sanning would be the vice-chair for the remainder of this year and the chair beginning in the fall.

The issue of incorporating Stewardship/ Evangelization into the work of the commissions was discussed. It is the belief that stewardship and evangelization need to be brought to the forefront of what we are doing. Ideas discussed included: being certain each commission sees their role and how they fit into that piece; the use of bulletin excerpts to teach parishioners about stewardship; ideas from the Diocesan Stewardship Day, including having a couple speak on stewardship. One of our parishioners has a personal goal to bring back fallen away Catholics and there was a discussion of some approaches to do that. Ideas proposed were: to put out a form at Easter and Christmas to capture the people who are attending, to do a survey at the beginning of Mass to update information and have parishioners share their time and talent. Other suggestions are to update information when people come in for the directory picture; to send out a newsletter to everyone on the parish roster; and to have family members share who is not attending from their family. It was shared that Bishop Barron has a program which is more comprehensive than just getting parishioners' information. It was indicated that people need a personal invitation, so we need to invite the fallen away parishioners to Mass or a parish event.

DMC Transitions - Tabled

Long term planning (Where do we see the parish one year, three years, five years, ten years from now). Since we need to do planning, it was suggested that the Pastoral Council needs a 2-4 hour retreat to move forward and determine a plan, as there is not time to implement a plan in the one hour per month meeting. A suggestion was made to propose to Father Marty to have the retreat in June or July. The preference was for a June retreat, but Father Bill suggested July, so Father Dan Dorau can be part of it.

A review of the covenants for the previous parishes needs to be conducted and a covenant for Divine Mercy Parish needs to be produced. It was requested that a copy of the Parish Covenant be E-mailed to everyone on the commissions.

New Business included a discussion of the request by a parishioner that the Pastoral Council Members' and Commission Members' contact information be listed in the bulletin.

Commission work for this meeting is to review the needs of each organization, committee, or group under the commission due to the contacts made and to discuss the purpose of your commission and a goal on which your commission will be working.

Closing Prayer was led by Deacon Bob. The meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LuAnn Glaser
Divine Mercy Commission Coordinator