

DIVINE MERCY PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 21, 2018

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

Liz Sanning, council chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Father Bill led opening prayer.

Old Business began with a discussion of the long-term planning retreat in July. A date has not yet been set. Father Marty will inform the members.

Relative to the Parish Covenant review, it was suggested that, depending on how the long-term planning retreat goes, the Covenant would change, so action was tabled until after long-term planning. The description of each commission could be reviewed to determine what makes sense, what doesn't make sense, and what is overlapping. Deacon Bob shared that we need to bring stewardship into the process and not have a separate stewardship committee. The question was raised as to how we grow our stewardship through each commission. We need to examine the commission structure and see if it is enhancing us, or if we need to change it. Father Marty had four questions that need to be considered in moving forward. A suggestion was made to consider bringing someone from St. Francis of Assisi in Wichita to the parish. We need to come out of the retreat with a plan, including a plan to be more hospitable.

Father Marty and Father Bill talked to Transitions DMC. It was decided to give 1% of the parish income to Transitions to meet the needs of individuals who contact the parish office with requests and Transitions will take care of the needs. It was requested that Transitions send a report as to how many people are being helped by the parish.

In a discussion of participation in parish events, the council members were reminded that, as the leaders of the parish, they should be at parish events.

An update was provided on the Faith Festival. Tony Melendez will be presenting on Friday night. Starting in July, his music will be playing before Mass starts. Yard signs and banners will be available.

New Business included a discussion of the Adult Faith Formation and Evangelization position. Since Heather Tieman has taken another position, Father Marty is looking at a team to oversee RCIA, someone to oversee CAFÉ, and John Champagne to manage Bible Study. Father Marty asked the Council to discuss if the Adult Faith Formation and Evangelization position needs to be filled. During the discussion, concerns brought up included: Father Marty overextends himself and needs someone in that position; the position should also be a marketing position; the commissions cannot pick up the responsibility; the parish is in deficit spending and we don't need to add more staff; adding the responsibility to someone already on staff, although the person would have to be trained; the parish needs a parish administrator with technology; If the position is filled with the right person, it will pay for itself by the people he/she brings into the parish; and Father Marty needs a secretary to monitor his calendar. The Pastoral Council, by consensus, recommends that a qualified person be hired to fill the position

and, due to the need for cost savings, the parish staffing be evaluated. (Since the meeting, Heather has been rehired to resume her ministry.)

The Gathering of Ministers will be September 13th, with new people added to the Commissions.

Contacting the “unchurched” was tabled for now, but we should invite anyone for whom we have a contact number to come to the Faith Festival.

We will have a parish mission April 14-16 with Jon Leonetti.

Father Marty informed the Council that St. Patrick’s will move from the Heritage Trust to a private owner to be used as a reception and exercise facility.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM. Deacon Bob had closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

LuAnn Glaser
Divine Mercy Commission Coordinator