

PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

September 24, 2019

Present: Fr. Eugene, Fr. Andrew, Scott Brandt, Anne Brosmer, Jane Gehlhausen, Van Ziegler, Ben Schwenk, Dan Fritch, Bridgette Bartley, Pam Freyberger, Max Verkamp, Jerry Birge, Lynn Scheu, Moises Basilio, Nicholas Hernandez, Tracie Ihle, Anna Hayden, Mike Hagerdon, Patty Brosmer, Ann Rasche, Fr. Homero, Jacqueline Ripberger, Carmen Miranda

Absent: Greg Fuhs

Guests: Dr. Tracy Lorey, Art Nordhoff, Fr. Gary Kaiser

Opening Prayer was led by Fr. Eugene

The 7:00 pm meeting was called to order by Anne Brosmer.

Introductions were made.

Bridgette made a motion to approve, and Lynn seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2019 meeting. The minutes were approved.

New Business

1. 10th Street School Update – Dr. Tracy Lorey reported

- Distributed the original deed between the Diocese and the school district.
 - The property includes the baseball field and the school building
- The school would like to retain access to the property, keep the field, demolish the existing school building (part or all), and create additional parking for the ball field
 - Different options were discussed

2. Holy Trinity School Discussion – Fr. Gary Kaiser reported

- Discussion regarding Holy Trinity's decision to not allow Young Life to come into the school.

3. October Mass counts – Jane reported

- Discussed conducting Mass counts at different times of the year, not just in October.
 - The data would be very helpful in multiple administrative ways.
- Counting method currently differs by Mass time and the individuals doing the counts.
 - Discussed having an usher meeting to review how to do the counts among other topics

Old Business:

1. Evangelization & Outreach – Mike reported

- K of C priest appreciation banquet is Oct 29th in H'burg. Tickets are available at the parish center.
- Diocesan Pastoral Council, which meets quarterly and made up of lay people, meets and consults with the Bishop. The council is being restarted. Anyone interested should let Fr. Boeglin know.
- Fr. Boeglin, as Dean, will be validating our parish's sacramental records and the safety and maintenance of our grounds.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

FINANCE: Dan reported.

- The finance commission is in favor of coming to an agreement with the school corporation so that the costs of building tear down do not fall to the parish.

EDUCATION: *Tracie reported*

- Discussed release time options with the new elementary school.

SOCIAL CONCERNS: *Lynn reported.*

- **Angel Tree:** Ready to update forms. Trees go up on Wednesday, Oct. 30. Angles go on the trees on Nov 2-3. Distribution day is Dec 14.
- **Respect Life:**
 - October is Respect Life month.
 - October 17th is the Diocesan Mass and banquet with a speaker from ICAN.

LITURGY: *Fr. Eugene reported:*

- Met for the 1st time and discussed vision for the liturgy.
- Brute award is not occurring this year.

YOUTH: *Anna reported.*

- Dunk tank at St. Mary's Picnic went well and raised funds for Bosco.
- Youth nights have been well attended by middle school and high school students.
- Middle school mornings at JMS and Holy Trinity have had strong turnouts.
- Bosco leaders attend Holy Trinity religion classes on a regular schedule.
- Reviewed upcoming events in October and November.

INTERCULTURAL MINISTRY: *Moises reported*

- The St. Joseph Latino Festival will be held on Sunday, October 20th.
- Complimented Fr. Homero's efforts to engage with the Hispanic community.
- Began conversations regarding the celebration of the Lady of Guadalupe.

STRATEGIC PLANNING: *Scott & Anne reported*

- The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 26.
- 4 parish visits (2 in Evansville and 2 in Louisville) are scheduled in the upcoming weeks.

SUCCESS STORIES/OTHER BUSINESS

- 75th Anniversary of the Diocese. The year-long celebration starts in November.
- Coffee and conversation on the Plaza went well.
- Patty has a new grandson who is doing well.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Homero led us in closing prayer.

The next meeting will be **Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 7:00 pm** in room 303.

Submitted by: Max Verkamp

Finance Commission Report

Distributed by Dan Fritch

Property Report:

- Plaza work has been completed by Jasper Lumber
 - Some extra work was required – estimate about \$4,000 additional
- Currently refinishing exterior wooden doors to the church
- Reviewing options to for better safety going up into the church attic from the Sacristy side of the church – need to upgrade hand rails, platform and walkways. Looking for options for an economical fix.

Finance Update:

- Recently received a gift thru Dubois County Community Foundation from Father Philip Kreilein for the Lucille Kreilein St Joseph Church Sacristy Endowment (\$300,000+)
- Average weekly collections the first 8 weeks into the new budget are up a little over last year
 - \$21,521 average which is approx. \$1,529 per week higher – (still early in the new budget)
- CPC Update
 - Commitment Weekend – Oct 5/6
 - Father Andrew Thomas will be making the ask to the parish
 - \$325,724 Assessment
- No current budget concerns at this time

Account Balances:

Total Cash/Investments	\$2,598,678
Endowments (Restricted)	\$2,002,335
Endowments (Unrestricted)	\$ 188,931
Dubois County Community Foundation	\$ 455,919
Endowments (Restricted)	

Social Concerns Commission Report

Distributed by Lynn Scheu

Parish Council Update: Review info from the posted meeting minutes. You can find them here. <https://saintjosephjasper.org/node/988> Someone asked about using plastic nametags that can be written on that each person could keep and reuse to reduce waste.

Sick and Elderly: Nothing new. Rose asked about signing Thinking of You cards in Sept. Lynn will try to work this out with Name Tag Sunday.

Bingo: Oct 14 at Good Samaritan be there at 6:15pm. We will ask for volunteers in the October meeting

Bibs & Cards for Baptism: Bibs are back from surging. I will be giving out for embroidering. I have enough cards, I just need to sign them. The stock is good in the sacristy.

New Parishioners: New report will be given by Jane. It is much better than the last report. It has more phone #s and more accurate information.

Angel Tree: Ready to update forms. We updated the date to put trees up – it's Wed. Oct 30 at 6:30pm. Nov 2-3 the angels go on the tree. Distribution day is Dec 14.

Senior Citizen's dinner: Booked for next March.

Donation Requests: None

Respect Life: Met with a group on what to do for Respect Life Month. Shared the poster and theme. Determined plan of action in using bulletin inserts, posters, activities in Rel. Ed. Shared with Bosco. Fr. Andrew will work into homily and intentions. Will have bulletin cover with the info and bulletin postings as well. Oct 17 is the diocesan mass and banquet with speaker from ICAN. This person was the Catholic liaison to the Indiana State representatives. ICAN is something that you can subscribe to and they notify you of legislation coming through to support or deny support.

Education Commission Report

Distributed by Tracie Ihle

- Sunday School will be held during 9AM Mass. Currently 16 registrations
- CLOW – Mel Snyder will no longer be able to lead Children’s Liturgy at 9AM. Barb Allen has shown an interest and will step into Mel’s position. We will offer Children’s Liturgy at both the 9AM and 11AM Mass. Yesica just informed me that the Spanish Mass will no longer offer it do to the lack of being able to find volunteers willing to lead children’s liturgy.
- Released Time – We are kicking off a Respect Life Family project that will be displayed on the walls near the restrooms in the back of church.
- Middle High School youth religious education - off to a great start. We had a kick off the First Wednesday with an optional Mass at 6PM, 6:30-7PM: served snow cones, smores and popcorn. 7-8:15PM began with Fr Andrew giving a student blessing, the kids then went into breakout sessions with catechists, Bosco, and an opportunity to learn about a t-shirt design contest. We played Christian music outside for the evening which helped to create a welcoming atmosphere.
- Adult education – Dr. Brandt Pitre study - “Why We Believe”. Pew sign ups began at the weekend Mass with 4 different opportunities. The study begins the first full week of October and lasts 8 weeks. There will be no cost to the study.
- Rock Your Faith continues with a Fall Mini-Retreat. We are heading to Nashville with 7&8th grade youth. Saint Mary’s Huntingburg youth are joining us (and possibly St. Isidore). The day will include a mini retreat with Jimmy Mitchell at Assumption parish (no school and can accommodate retreat groups) and the Dominican Sister’s shrine/motherhouse tour. We will be taking a charter bus for the day and opening it up to 7&8th grade students, cost is \$60. The actual cost is \$85.00 (includes lunch, bus, fee for Jimmy, donation to the sisters and the parish who is letting us use their facility). We will put something in the bulletin to see if any parishioners would want to offset the expense or offer to provide a scholarship for a student who is unable to afford the cost to go. Kids arrive around 7AM and we return at 11PM.
- A 30 minute Christmas program will be offered between the Sunday morning 9&11AM Mass on December 15th (10:15-10:45. The children’s choir will be included. Taylor Blalock will help us lead the young children in a short-narrated play to including 2nd grade children and younger.) The 3-5 grade youth in released time & faith adventure youth will sing Christmas hymns along with the children’s choir. Children 2nd grade and younger will be given a simple Christmas song to learn. This will be available for anyone in the parish in addition to released time students.
- First Reconciliation Family Formation is off to a great start. There are 42 students making First Communion (3 of them are middle school age). The parent sessions using the Forgiven series on FORMED are going very well. The family formation with the parent/child using Signs of Grace starts in October and meet twice a month.
- Released time schedule for the next school year will be given to us on October 1st and includes grade K – 5. We are looking at using LaCasa for the younger grades and bringing 3-5 grade youth to Saint Joseph, similar to how we operate now, but we will need to transport the youth. La Casa needs to be renovated. A committee of people from the education commission will take a look at LaCasa to make suggestions to Kersteins and see what type of arrangements can be made to make it a facility that works well for both released time and the Latino ministries. As far as vehicles go, there may be problems being able to acquire a 14-passenger van to transport youth. David Schuch from Ruxer’s suggested we look into a shuttle bus do to safety issues and regulations. Our class sizes should be 12 or less since the schedule will remain similar to the 10th street schedule. Students are divided up by grade, each grade assigned an hour, every day of the week with homeroom teachers assigned to a particular day. Depending on how many Catholics

are in the homeroom causes class sizes to each be different. There should not be a problem fitting the students in a small shuttle bus.

- Grace Soellner is interning through the high school intern program. We share her time with Bosco throughout the week. She is here from 1:30-3PM Mondays/Tuesdays and Fridays every other week and has been a great help for the R.E. office.