

SS. Peter and Paul Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting September 21, 2009

Present: Dennis Adamski, Liz Aderton, Jim Cannon, Paul Gallo, Tom Gavin, Tom Lupinacci, Dolly McCarthy, Jim McCarthy, Tom Rogers, Margie Sznajder, Rachel Whitman, Fr. Milota, Fr. Ryan, Jane Bowers

Absent: Ruth O'Malley, Jillian Pociask, Marty Szczech

Guests: Pam Adamski, Michael Brummond

I. Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. Fr. Milota led the opening prayer.

II. Minutes

The minutes of the August 17, 2009 meeting were approved with the correction in Section V.A. last sentence, should read "The RE program for Catechists has about 100 participants.", on a motion by Dennis Adamski, seconded by Tom Lupinacci. Motion approved.

III. Open Forum

Nothing additional.

IV. New Business

A. Introduction and welcome – new Council Members

Liz Aderton welcomed the new members. Everyone then introduced themselves.

B. Election of Vice President

Tom Gavin was nominated for the position of Vice President.

A motion to elect Tom Gavin as Vice President was made by Jim Cannon, seconded by Jim McCarthy. Motion approved.

V. Old Business

A. Revisit Capital Campaign

Fr. Milota said that it was good that we waited to begin a capital campaign with the turn in the economy for the worse and a lot of people still out of work. If Sunday collection revenue does not increase by next fall, the parish will not be able to proceed with the capital campaign. The initial plan is to do it in-house with some consultations; but if a larger campaign would hire someone.

Jim Cannon noted that this year's Light the Way is to help pay for the roof of the Junior High building.

B. Neighborhood Meetings / Ice Cream Social

Liz Aderton said that an Ice Cream Social has been scheduled for Saturday, August 26, in front of the Ministry Center following the 5:00 p.m. Mass. We believe invites were sent to the next batch of new Parishioners to attend this event. Everyone was asked to encourage others to attend and flyers are welcome from groups invited.

The Council continues to believe that we should continue with the Neighborhood meetings. We have not had as many new Parishioners turn out; maybe we need to increase the number invited. It was discussed about moving these back into the neighborhoods but decided to continue to have them at the Rectory. It was felt that Thursday evenings would be a better night than Saturday evenings to host these. We will look at having our next event in early November. Fr. Milota will check dates and Liz Aderton will follow up with Marty Szczech regarding the invitations.

VI. Commission Reports

A. Parish Life

Liz Aderton said that they are working to expand the Donut Sunday events; possibly doing fewer, but bigger events. The next one is scheduled for October 4.

B. New Evangelization

Tom Lupinacci said the technology group next meets tomorrow evening and the Commission will be meeting next Monday. He said that we have now had two Sunday evening presentations; our book sale begins September 22; Lighthouse media sales began last week and we have recouped 80% of our cost already; Gifts of Finest Wheat begins October 1; and October 23 is the one man play Lolek – tickets are \$8.00.

The technology project is moving along. Right now we have speeches and podcasts on the web site. We plan to continue to prepare through October and then begin implementation which will include content; outreach; marketing; web site design and delivery; fund raising; staffing.

C. Worship

Dennis Adamski said their fall meeting will be October 9.

D. Christian Education

Tom Rogers and Deacon Brown have been discussing plans to rebuild the Christian Education Commission. They will present a list of possible appointees to Fr. Milota. We are looking for about 7 people on the commission to come from various backgrounds of the parish. Any suggestions from the council as to possible appointees would be greatly appreciated and may be sent to Bucktr32@aol.com.

E. Christian Service

Tom Gavin said they are working to determine the criteria for how/why they give and ranking factors for both their annual giving and the Christmas and Easter distributions. The general fund has about \$5-6,000. They are looking to have an emphasis, or theme, for Christmas and Easter with no guarantees for funding. They are reviewing the annual donation list and have funded Church programs. In November they will be reviewing the rest of the list to determine who they will continue to fund.

F. Administration

Jim Cannon reviewed the budget details. He noted that Sunday collections are about \$29,000 behind budget. There are some timing issues. Total revenues are down \$14,000 from last year and \$55,000 from budget. Total expenses are down \$26,000 from last year and \$52,000 from budget. Net is \$2,000 off budget and \$13,000 off last year. We are restricted on how we can use the third floor of the Pastoral Hall. A possibility would be a Neumann Center which we would add to our Capital Campaign but which could also be part of a Diocesan campaign and include the purchase of the neighboring homes.

The major issue for the School is that their tuition income is down; this could be a timing issue. Total revenues are behind last year by \$74,000 and behind budget by \$110,000.

REO tuition is ahead of budget by about \$4,000 and behind last year by about \$5,000. They have cut their costs and less investment is needed by the Church.

VII. Pastor's Comments

Fr. Milota thanked Tom Lupinacci for the work being done for the New Evangelization. It is hard to evaluate who is attending for what Sunday evenings – speaker series, Mass, confessions. He is heartened by the response to the Lighthouse media.

The loss of revenue from North Central College and weekly offerings is concerning. If collections do not begin to increase we will need to do a Stewardship Campaign if the economy continues to increase in early spring – late February/early March. He noted that tuition assistance has greatly increased that it is expected to continue to increase.

It was noted that we need to have an awareness of the children dropped off at the gym with the openness of the school building; keeping with Protecting God's Children.

VIII. Closing Prayer

The closing prayer was lead by Dennis Adamski.