

St. Bernard Pastoral Council Minutes

Tuesday, January 19, 2021

6:00PM-7:30PM

Council Members Present: Kim Albrecht, Maria De Leon, Erin Rosales (Chair), Father Jude, Mark Mongin, Alex Barker (Vice Chair), Ron DeGroot (Trustee Treasurer), Daniel Thiel (Trustee Secretary), Elizabeth Strick, Anne Staelens, Sue Coyle

Council Members Absent: John Zadrazil, Chong Ly

Guest present: Deacon Mike Eash

Meeting was called to order at 6PM by Erin Rosales.

Agenda was motioned for approval by Mark Mongin, seconded by Ron DeGroot, and all were in favor.

Meeting Minutes from the November and December meetings were motioned for approval by Kim Albrecht, seconded by Ron DeGroot, and all were in favor.

Report on Young Adult Initiative – Deacon Mike shared the successes of the Virtual Bingo with Santa activity that took place just prior to Christmas. He reported that 11 families, totaling around 30 participants were involved with the activity. He had more volunteers than there was work to run the event. Care packages were assembled by Anne Staelens and Kim Albrecht and were distributed by volunteers to all participants. All participants offered positive feedback, with the encouraging words that they would participate in this activity again. Dan shared his personal positive feedback as well, as his family did participate.

Ron DeGroot asked what would be done differently, if anything, to improve this event? Deacon Mike reported that the only change he would make would be to offer this event to a larger target group. Mike said that if this event or an event similar were desired to be done, he would prefer a volunteer lead, that he would offer his assistance to and work side by side with. This event did have 70 invitations sent out, with only 11 families participating, but with the success of the event, it is felt that participation would likely grow.

Committee Liaisons – Erin Rosales lead this discussion. She shared the list of liaison assignments, as well as the liaison responsibilities. These handouts had been distributed via e-mail prior to the Pastoral council meeting.

Kim Albrecht shared that she has already jumped on communicating with her staff resource member for the Worship committee. She reports that this has gone smoothly and communication has been strong between her and Sherry Zwicky.

Erin discussed that for Groups with many subgroups such as the Education/Discipleship group, co-liaisons were assigned. Co-liaisons will need to communicate to determine which subgroups they will cover.

Ron DeGroot suggested that each committee have at least one liaison, as well as one back up liaison, should the normal liaison be unavailable to assist with the needs of the ministry leaders at any given time. He also felt that some groups had two liaisons that didn't need two, as the breadth of the activities of that committee was not large enough. – Erin reported that determination of Committee needs will be an ongoing process and as we continue to work on assignments, we will make changes as we see fit. Erin also mentioned that she did not have a designated committee assignment, so she could offer her support as the “stop gap” should the normally assigned liaison be unavailable.

Maria De Leon asked for clarification on definitions and assignments. These handouts were reviewed in detail. Erin brought forth the documents with group definitions as well as the subgroups listed under each main group. Erin reported that our main responsibility is to ask ministry leaders about what their needs are for their subgroups to run smoothly, and inspire growth in other parishioners to facilitate/support their baptismal callings. We need to bring this information back to the pastoral council so that support needs can be determined and provided.

Alex Barker asked if an area does not have a strong foundation, if we need to help build the foundation in these missing areas. He referenced evangelization. It was felt collectively that the Parish Mission planning group may be able to help give direction, where these needs are identified. Additionally, it was emphasized that if a staff member is working on a particular area already, we need to determine their particular needs to help facilitate the building of these areas and bring them back to the council.

Ron DeGroot reported that in the near future he and Father Jude will plan to release the chart with Committee and subgroup leaders to the pastoral council members.

Erin highlighted the next steps of the Pastoral Council liaisons as:

- 1.) *Connect with staff person or ministry leader if no staff person assigned (as is the case for Living Justice)*
 - *Start the conversation, make introduction, build relationships*
 - *Then move on to planning future meetings to identify needs*
- 2.) *Determine the workload of each area – this will be an ongoing process*

Staff Update – lead by Father Jude

Father Jude reported that he had discussion with staff and it was agreed that staff will start sending the minutes from staff meetings to the pastoral council for review. This will help facilitate collaboration between both groups. **ACTION ITEM: Make sure Edna has Pastoral Council Member e-mails to distribute these staff meeting minutes**

Father Jude went on to discuss the parish plans for the season of Lent.

- The overarching theme for Lent will be *Patience*
- Today two booklets were selected to be sent via flocknote in online format for parishioners to use for the season of Lent
- A parish retreat has been planned to take place between 3/14/21 – 3/17/21. This will be open to parishioners, as well as individuals that are not members of the parish.
- Originally this was planned to be run by the Fathers of Mercy out of Kentucky, but due to COVID pandemic, Father John Marusa from Wisconsin will be helping to put on this event.

Communications have not yet started with Father John, so the details of what this retreat will look like are not yet identified.

- There will be a Penance Service on 3/24/21 at 6:30 PM
- Confession on 3/26/21
- Every 1st Friday of each month for the rest of the year, Adoration with Prayer of the Devine Office will take place
- Stations of the Cross will begin every Friday at 6:30PM through the season of Lent
- Notification of these events will be distributed via The parish Newsletter, as well as Flocknotes

Erin Rosales offered the assistance of the Pastoral Council for any of the above activities, as needs are identified by Father Jude.

Closing Prayer was led by Erin Rosales and meeting was adjourned at 7:20PM.