

St. Bernard Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2021

Council Members Present: Erin Rosales (Chair), Alex Barker (Vice Chair), Ron DeGroot (Trustee Treasurer), Daniel Thiel (Trustee Secretary), Maria De Leon, Elizabeth Strick, Sue Coyle, Father Jude, John Zadrazil

Council Members Absent: Kim Albrecht, Mark Mongin, Chong Ly, Anne Staelens

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

Agenda was motioned for approval by Ron DeGroot, seconded by Elizabeth Strick, all were in favor.

Meeting minutes from January were motioned for approval by Ron DeGroot, seconded by Elizabeth Strick, all were in favor.

Liaison Updates

Education/Discipleship – Dan Thiel, Maria De Leon: Dan reported that Maria and he met with Deb Holzem prior to tonight's meeting to establish a better understanding of the key players in education and discipleship. It was noticed that the main players involved were staff members, so Deb provided a list of current parish ministers involved with this cause. We agreed that meeting every 2 months moving forward would be an adequate frequency. The structure of this group in terms of the subgroups was slightly adjusted, and lessened. Deb had shared that her bigger vision was to combine youth and adult into a more family oriented theme. Her observation has been that when milestones like confirmation are reached by a youth, the whole family disappears from the church. We need to engage the whole family more successfully. Dan shared that perhaps based on the discipleship nights model a more diverse group of educational offerings could be offered to all members of families and other parish members to participate in an a la carte type fashion, allowing us to better meet each parishioner where they are at in their faith life.

Worship – Kim Albrecht: Kim was absent from today's meetings. Erin will plan to reach out and receive an email update on Kim's progress in worship.

Living Justice – Mark Mongin, Anne Staelens: Mark and Anne were absent from today's meeting. Father Jude did share that he had reached out to Bill Kessenich who agreed to be the lay minister for Living Justice.

Evangelization – Alex Barker: Alex reached out and spoke with Andy. He and Andy came up with five main talking points:

1.) There is a need to find more evangelization ministers to help with evangelization. *Father mentioned that people need to better understand what this entails prior to them likely volunteering, based on developing a better understanding of what evangelization is.*

2.) Andy shared a passion for getting into door to door mission field work. Parish Mission Planning group has a map of our mission field. Andy would like to get teams to go door to door, provide information on mass times, answer questions and offer prayers for the people they contact.

3.) Andy has an idea for a Lord's Supper. This would entail a family or families organizing a meal, inviting relatives and friends to share conversation and evangelize in smaller groups.

4.) Alex did report a difficult time understanding where communication fits into the organization chart for evangelization. *Ron said that some of the words used in the chart were seed words that lead into other areas; he recommended viewing communication as how to get info to the appropriate places. Maria said that communication is the language of evangelization itself "what language we use to more effectively communicate with, versus shy people away from our purpose"*

5.) Alex mentioned that it may be a good idea for Andy to do a short presentation on what evangelization is, and work this into a mass on Sundays.

Faith and Family Life – Elizabeth Strick, Chong Ly: Elizabeth reported that she had reached out to Rachel Ten Haken. Rachel had shared that there is low energy and no motivation due to the pandemic and the virtual restrictions to put on family oriented events. There will be a Facebook rosary prayer group starting this Friday at 6AM. Elizabeth reported that she needs more guidance on who to reach out to; Ron will plan to send out a list of contacts.

Pastoral Care – Sue Coyle: Sue reported that she has not yet been able to reach out to lay ministers at this time. She has an e-mail in process to Cathy Kulibert. Ron will also provide names to her to contact in the coming month.

Parish Planning – Ron DeGroot: Ron reported that he has started work on a Parish Calendar. This is in the beginning stages and needs more work. He did report concerns on receiving minutes from weekly staff meetings, and will plan to reach out to staff to see if these can be shared with the pastoral council moving forward. This will go a long way in assisting him with parish planning.

Operations – John Zadrzil: John was not in attendance at the January meeting. He was not aware of his assignment. Ron reported that he would plan to sit down with John in the coming month to discuss the operations of the parish and the influence finances will have on this. Ron will invite John to attend the Finance Council meeting this coming Thursday.

Volunteers Needed: Father shared that volunteers will be needed for Stations of the Cross, Holy Hour, and Parish Mission. Stations of the Cross and Holy Hour will need scripture readers, cantors, and volunteers to carry the cross. Parish Mission will need ushers. Erin will plan to contact Deacon Greg to see how a sign-up sheet can be created. She will plan to reach out to the pastoral council first and determine the remaining volunteer needs thereafter.

Next meeting: March 23rd 6PM (Moved a week later due to Parish Mission)