

St Mary's Parish Pastoral Council Agenda
Date 2/20/2018
6:30PM Location

Mission Statement: St. Mary's Catholic Church in Johnson City, TN gathers as a diverse and welcoming Eucharistic community baptized in Jesus Christ to proclaim the Gospel. We celebrate the sacraments and serve our community through works of compassion, love and mercy.

Present: John, Leila, Joe, Lucia, Nancy, Kim, Laura, Stephanie. Fr. Jesus and Marisol checked in but were obligated to another meeting occurring at the same time. Mike was present as a liaison from the PFC. Fr. Pete was returning from the Holy Land and thus absent.

Opening Prayer: Reflection-John Prophets of a Future not Our Own (attached), Petitions—
Reports: Minutes from the meeting after the retreat (2/3/18) were approved, but can always be amended if necessary.

Brief update from John of news received right before the meeting: Fr. Pete was taken ill on his way home and stopped for treatment in Germany. He would not return this evening as expected, but possibly Thursday, 2/25. Renovations are being performed in the rectory.

*Finance Report

Mike briefly reviewed the status of the budget as of the end of December. He stated that the accounting system has many moving parts, is linear, is a cash accounting system and is not well-suited for revenue projection. Nevertheless, we appear to be ahead of budget for the first half of the year. This is good, because the second half of the year often under-performs. There was a general discussion of how much we had on hand already for future improvement of the campus. Mike estimated 300,000 to 400,000. There was general agreement that a key issue now that the debt has been discharged is to maintain momentum: the parish needs to continue to build (via the giving of time talent, and treasure) and not lapse into complacency. We need a vision and goals to replace the now obsolete goal of paying off the debt. Some impatience was expressed about the pace of Capital Improvement/Capital Maintenance. While the finalization of plans for the top initiatives of strategic planning were only approved as of the end of January, the letter allowing formation of task forces for replacing the phones and working on paving of the parking lot and driveways was received in September (and these two projects are included as top priorities in our finalized strategic plan). In that regard, once Fr. Pete returns, the PPC would like to know who is on the task forces and what we can do to accelerate progress on these two key initiatives. If they can be successfully completed in a short time frame, some momentum can be generated for further initiatives.

*Chairperson Update

E-giving: Nick Johnson, former chair of PPC, has forms and information. There was a lack of clarity about how many times this initiative was attempted in calendar 2017, but some idea

that it was attempted in April or May. John will get the forms from Nick and once Fr. Pete returns we will set a date.

*Church Mobilization Network

Joe. No report

*My Parish App

Lucia: The app is available, and has been downloaded by a couple of members. A report and receipt from the diocese is attached (there was no cost to the parish). Members need to sign up for an account after specifying their parish. Lucia made plans with Stephanie to work on Youth Group next.

*Manual for new PPC Members

Kim, Joe and Laura agreed to start work on a binder containing the necessary documents and orientation material for new members of the PPC, but the initial roll-out would include sufficient numbers of binders for all current members as well.

*How to show progress on master plan for campus development

John expressed concern about how to show steady progress on this gigantic and at this point ill-defined project. Fr. Pete has stated he will consult priests experienced in moving a campaign of this nature along and report back to us. In the meanwhile, discussion centered on finding, submitting, and/or complying with DOK paperwork and guidelines. Since he has experience already with the phones/paving, Pat will be consulted on starting the paperwork and/or possibly invited to next meeting. Mike provided John with a copy of the paperwork. (Paperwork attached.)

New business

The question was raised as to whether a professional service should be engaged to screen the rectory for environmental issues. The issue arose because of a history of water damage which could lead to mold/mildew/allergy issues.

Closing Prayer

Dates to Remember

* Next Meeting <March 20, 2018 6:30 PM>

Respectfully submitted

John Schweitzer