

St Mary's Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
Date 4/17/2018
6:30PM Location: Office conference room

Present: Fr. Jesus, Leila, Joe, Laura, Stephanie, Kim, Nancy, Marisol, Lucia, John.
Invited:
Pat Marek, Ed Basconi. Absent: Fr. Pete for a reunion.

Opening Prayer, Reflection-Leila;
Review and accept minutes from Previous Meeting

- Accepted

Reports

Pastor's Report: Fr. Pete informs John that he would like to hold a newcomers (to the parish) reception at the rectory on May 27 at which it would be nice if at least one or two PPC members were present. Several members point out that this is Memorial day weekend and therefore may be suboptimal.

St. Mary's School: Auction May 5, \$60/ticket, students visited Oak Hill school

Maintenance, Capital Improvement (Pat Marek):

- Pat provided copies of feasibility letters that the DOK requires for us to perform these projects that are over \$10K
 - These are attached separately
 - John questioned the relevance of points 7 and 8 to the projects specified but apparently this was directed by DOK and will smooth the way for later projects.
- Update on status of phone, paving projects and any others
 - Will have 3 bids on phone systems shortly
 - 3 paving companies have visited to look at site, fourth expected
 - Await bids from all
- Parish master plan for facilities (need letter to Bishop asking for permission to form task force)
 - Moved and approved creation of feasibility letter to send to DOK. This is the required first step in moving forward (creating a task force).

Acoustical Environment of the Church (Ed Basconi):

Ed reviewed history of sound system for us. Microphone and speaker system critical for clarity of the preached spoken word. Current system pretty good and very adaptable, but it will not solve the problem of ambient noise in an acoustically "bright" worship area. Some form of deadening of sound reflection is necessary for that. Ed had a sample acoustical panel to show the council. We went into church, generated impulse function (clap!) and Ed used a cell phone app to estimate reverberation time which was between 3 and 4 seconds. Some reverberation (estimated 2 s.) is useful for musical purposes but 4 is too much for spoken word. Company that made acoustical panel had estimated a 4 s. reverb time for our space based on physical specifications. They provided a plan for ? panels for ~\$12,000. Ed thought we could try fewer for starters. There was discussion of making them ourselves which would probably halve the cost per panel. If I have this correctly, the council thought that trying to do it ourselves would be impractical for logistical and

efficiency of time reasons. Another way to possibly save some money would be shipping, which for this company would be from central Virginia, would be \$750, so if parishioners were to rent a truck and go haul the panes themselves, savings could be realized there.

- Action: Ed and committee (Pat Marek, Mike and Kary Thomas, Felicia Gregory) would visit church in the following week and discuss possibilities for more decorative panels and report back to PPC

Chairperson Updates:

- Should rectory have environmental survey?
 - Action: Since only Father Guerrero's bed room was surveyed originally John will contact Mr. O'Brien at ETSU to see about surveying the house.
- Establish weekend date or dates to increase E-Giving:
 - May 19-20

Associate Pastor's report:

- Family Funfest to raise money for the CHRP retreats will occur Sunday, May the 6th following the 10 AM mass. This is the morning after the school auction, but is also the only available Sunday left before summer vacation.

Finance Report

- Mike: More or less status quo. Collections are dipping as the year ends as they always do, but performance appears to be in line with the budget that has been adopted.

My Parish App- Lucia

- There are some contractual privacy issues that need to be resolved before proceeding further. These do not appear to be difficult, but involve identifying some key personnel to assume responsibilities.

Manual for new PPC Members

- Kim: Completed, and ready to be handed out. Thanks!

New Business

- The replacement of the sound system in the school gym has been accomplished with the help of Ed Basconi, Pat Marek, Deacon Mike and Don Davis. Good work, gentlemen, and thank you very much!
- Time to nominate/find new PPC members for those rotating off
 - As time for the meeting had exceeded what was scheduled, this was only briefly discussed and no viable new names were introduced. Please prayerfully consider this and try to come to the next meeting with some suggested new members.

* Next Meeting <May15, 2018 6:30 PM same place>

Respectfully submitted,

John Schweitzer