

Parish Council Reports 2016

February

Stewardship

Leader: Judith Schenk

Representative: Eric Schmidt

Meeting Date: February 23rd

Next Meeting Date:

Attendees:

Robin Decker

Judith Schenk

Eric Schmidt

Lillian Ciske

-Opening prayer

-Old Business

- Volunteer Appreciation – Judith talked to Fr. Mark regarding a blessing to be given once a month at Mass for volunteers.
- Ministry Catalog: This should be ready by April. Discussion was held regarding the directory.
- Parish council will host the after Mass fellowship in April.
- Website – slideshow – Eric wrote a blurb asking for photos from Parishioners which will go in the bulletin.

-New Business

- Time and Talent Project – forms are on website and will be mailed with either the monthly stewardship mailing or by April 20.
- Lillian suggested a Seder Meal to be held at St. Veronica's for Easter 2017. Discussion.

- Closing prayer

- Adjourned-

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Decker

Welcoming

Leader: Robin Decker

Representative: Judi Caruso

Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Date:

A welcome brunch for new parishioners was held on Sunday, February 12th.

Human Concerns

Leader:

Representative:

Meeting Date:

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy

Leader: Tom Carls/Fr. Mark Priest Designate SP

Meeting Date:

Representative: Mary Thiry

First, Father Romanus let me know that Nisa has taken a new job in Chicago and will no longer be serving on the STAA Advisory Board. We wish you well, Nisa and appreciate all your work! St. Paul's Council has appointed Toni Gorski as the St. Paul's Advisory Board representative.

The Advisory Board passed the bylaw amendment that was shared by the Policy Committee prior to the cancelled February meeting. The addition to the Bylaw Article V. 10 clarifies: In the event of a vacancy of an at-large member, the BOARD will approve a person to fulfill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term. No BOARD member shall serve more than five (5) consecutive years.

In completing unfinished business from the January meeting, the Advisory Board, approved the appointment of two at-large members to serve the remaining terms. Three candidates were considered and the body unanimously selected Jessica Szierzen and Juan Hernandez. Our discussion was very productive and involved consideration of what parishes will have representatives' terms ending in 2016. Since all three candidates were excellent choices, the Board also voted to unanimously recommend that the third candidate, Brian McManus, be considered for the St. Veronica parish rep position that will be vacant at the end of this school year.

The discussion about the expiring terms of Advisory Board members led the Board to discuss a plan for bringing forth candidates to have a vote taken prior to the June meeting so new Board members can be introduced. The following plan was agreed upon by the Advisory Board:

- Patrick and Rachel would write up a piece to describe the position vacancies, expectations, and clarify the need for nominations. This would be sent to Dan in about a week.
- Dan would share these details with the school via e-mail and school newsletter to solicit nominations from the school community. Current Board members can still make nominations. The deadline for this would be end of March.
- Dan would collect the names and information and send the aggregate information to Rachel to disseminate amongst the Advisory Board Members **prior** to the April meeting.
- The April meeting would share the slate of nominations and voting on the Candidates would take place at the May meeting. (*The May meeting would also include election of a chair and vice chair for the Advisory Board*)
- The June social meeting would introduce the new board members and mark the end of the terms for our outgoing members.

How†Seton†Catholic†Schools†Is†Helping†Our†School

Seton Catholic Schools is a transformational educational system committed to overcoming academic and social challenges, empowering students, families and educators to attain their God-given potential. Seton

will operate as a collaborative network. If you are asking yourself how Seton is going to help and why it is necessary, here is a simple answer:

The key items Seton Catholic Schools is planning to bring to our school include:

- Improve instruction methods
- Increase teacher and principal professional development
- Provide additional teaching resources

- Increase compensation for teachers and principals
- Build tighter linkage between schools and parishes
- Invest in school faith formation programs
- Invest in facilities.

The best way to achieve this is to be organized as a collaborative network. Very directly, we cannot accomplish these goals and our mission in a parochial model; we can only do this as part of a collaborative network.

Progress†Update

Here are just a few points on progress since the beginning of our process this year:

- We are working on a Parish Agreement. The parish agreement is the document that details parish and Seton Catholic Schools responsibilities. The parish agreement is not done; it is a work in progress.
- Teachers and principal will become employees of Seton Catholic Schools as of July 1, 2016.
- Each school is developing the 201617 budget the same way as last year. Separately and independently, Seton Catholic Schools will be providing additional investments covering:
 - Additional teaching resources
 - Increased teacher and principal compensation
 - Facilities
- Significant progress has been made on the capital campaign to support this investment. There was just a grant awarded in the amount of \$2 million.
- Seton recently announced Dr. William Hughes as our Chief Academic Officer. He is an experienced urban educator and superintendent that is well respected throughout the state for his academic leadership. Bill is experienced in working with DPI and brings an incredible network of educators. Additional leadership hires will come in the next 36 weeks.
- The team of Kathleen Cepelka, Marquette University and Cardinal Stritch University are advancing the design of our spiritual formation programs.
- The Seton Catholic Schools website was launched on January 28.
- We are supporting schools in activities related to Catholic Schools Week and enrollment. We have developed brochures in English and Spanish to introduce Seton Catholic Schools.

Finance Representative: Judi Caruso

Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Date: March 10

Minutes were not published

No meeting in February

Archdiocese Parish Council

Representative: Bruce Davie

District 15 APC

Next meeting April 18th

Christian Formation

Leader: Karen Bushman

Representative: Terrie Cavender

Meeting Date: February 15

Next Meeting Date:

Attendees: Helen Bugni (SHJ), Cindy Wiktorek (IC), Ken Pfohl (SP), Judy Steinke (SV adults), Brett Gelinsky (SA), Lynn Filak (NOTL), Terry Cavender (SV), Rebecca Scholz (YM), Karen Bushman (Elem)

Excused: Vivian Roe (SHJ), Jeanine Gruszkowski (St. Paul)

Meeting opened with the Opening Prayer.

Staff Reports

A. Karen – See Report.

B. Rebecca – Movie night went well and March 11 will be a game night. For the high school the mission is Reach Out/Reach In. Dominican High School will be the sleeping site for the program. The cost is \$235 per participant. Brett asked about other denominations. Rebecca said she wasn't sure but that Mary O. has said there were other faiths represented. You don't have to be Catholic, especially some of the other work camps. Youth Confirmation is scheduled for May 17 at Immaculate Conception 7pm. Fundraising for Brewing the Faith is needed. The group keeps growing and participants are from all over the Arch. The cost is about \$300 per session. Rebecca said that a flyer might be out this week or next.

STAA Report –

1. Spring Auction – A last minute email had been sent out about buying tickets for the auction. Plans are proceeding very well.

2. Seton School System – A meeting for parents had been held earlier. They are still waiting for more information about what this new system will entail.

Old Business

A. Lenten Journey (Judy) – The first session was held on Sunday, February 14. Unfortunately it started snowing just before the presentation was to begin but there was still an enthusiastic crowd of about 50-60 people. Deacon Pat did a wonderful presentation on the Corporal works. The handout of the Corporal and Spiritual works was well received.

B. Pastoral Council (Brett) – Not a lot of information being disseminated yet but the group is working on planning preparations.

C. Communion Retreat by Sinsinawa Sister. (Helen) – Helen distributed an email from the religious sister who offers Communion retreats in her diocese. The program includes many of the elements which are offered during the retreat given in our current cluster Communion program. Karen enumerated the activities which she incorporates in the 4 hour retreat. At the present time, Karen does not anticipate contacting the sisters at Clare Hall to inquire about holding retreats at their facility.

New Business/ Parish Items

A. Sacred Heart –

1. Morning of Reflection – Saturday, February 20 is our next event. We will be viewing the movie Faustina. This is a beautifully filmed movie done in Polish with English subtitles. After the movie there will be time for discussion concerning the role of mercy in our image of God.

2. Soup and Bread Supper – Monday, February 22 the parish will continue the conversation about St. Faustina after the Stations of the Cross. Larry Bugni and Chris Kowal will present.

3. April 21 - The St. Vincent de Paul chapter will celebrate 100 years since the Charter was signed. There will be a dinner that mimics the meal that is offered at the South Shore meal program (Nativity provides barbecue and Sacred Heart provides potato salad, jello and vegetables).

2. Divine Mercy Sunday - The chaplet will be recited after Mass. Then about 45 minutes after Mass will be benediction and Confession.

B. Immaculate Conception – The Human Concerns Committee February “Have a Heart” campaign of the parish donates the proceeds to a different cause each year. For 2016 the money will be going to the music program of STAA.

C. Nativity of the Lord – There is a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, February 20.

D. St. Paul – Wednesday, February 18 there will be a Synod Evangelization committee meeting talking more about the Mass.

E. St. Veronica – Taste of the Town was great. The musical group Lumen Christi will be offering a concert of sacred music on Sunday, February 21 at 4pm. This group is headed by the musician from St. Alphonsus.

F. St. Augustine – Fish Fry was held on February 12. There has not been a council meeting for a few months due to change in chairperson and then scheduling conflicts.

These minutes were developed using the template Helen had distributed from our January meeting.

Respectfully Submitted
Karen Bushman

Finance

Leader: J. Klajbor

Representative: Don Schaewe

Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Date:

Prayer & Worship

Representative: Kathy Kaiser

Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Date:

No February Meeting