

Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council
September 23, 2013

Present: Fr. Phil Reifenberg, Jeanne Bitkers, Kathy Pluskat, Leo Schneider, Sue Sellars, Mary Karls, Don Holmes, Bill Thiele, Maureen Stoelb, Eileen Diener, Peter Bergman, Pam Duessing, Brett Goebel, Carla Schommer

Excused: Steve Straus

Guest: Beth Grebe

1. The opening prayer was led by Bill Thiele.
2. There was no parishioner input at this meeting.
3. In the pastor's report, Fr. Phil had several "newsy" items; the center for the Green Bay Packers, Evan Dietrich-Smith, will visit Seton Catholic School this week. As Father advances in age, he is experiencing some maturity-related health issues and asks us all to be understanding of the situation. Also, Fr. Phil has discovered that it *is* harder for not-so-young people to learn new things; he has tried "Rosetta Stone" and is having a bit of difficulty with learning a new language.
4. Brett Goebel discussed with the Council the Confidential Financial Statement that is sent to the Archdiocese after the close of each fiscal year. Thanks to reduced expenses last year, the parish ended the year with a net surplus of \$64, 472. Peter Bergman then stated that the Finance Council has set as a goal for this year the updating and streamlining of the Facility Usage Rental Policy.
5. The Council continued their discussion of the book "Rebuilt"; centered on the two questions: *Who do we say that we are as a parish?*
Who do we want to be as a Parish?
There were a lot of great answers to both questions; it was decided to postpone a definitive answer until after the sessions "Who Do You Say That I Am?" to be held next month.
6. As part of the book discussion, thought was given to Pastoral Council goals for this year and how to achieve them. One thought was that we, as Council, should thank fellow parishioners for coming to Mass at St. Dominic as they leave church. It was felt that this small act of kindness would make our Parish feel more "welcoming".
7. The two parish listening sessions are scheduled for Saturday, October 12, from 9:00 AM to noon and on Sunday October 27, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Pastoral Council members are being asked to act as small group facilitators at these two meetings. We are to consider which of the meetings we wish to attend and then to study training materials on the Archdiocesan web site at www.archmil.org .
8. Jeanne Bitkers has been chosen President of the District 9 Council; which represents all Sheboygan County Parishes at the Archdiocesan level. Since she had been our parish representative on that Council, she asked that another Council member step

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forward to represent St. Dominic to that group. No one has volunteered as of the end of our meeting.

9. Plans are moving forward for the “Thank You” party for Don and Jane Lydolph; to be held on Saturday evening, October 26.

10. Committee Reports:

A. Worship Committee - no report.

B. Human Concerns - The Elizabeth Ministry, which was set up to assist new mothers and their newborn babies with clothes, baby items, and home-cooked meals for the families, is moving toward extending their services to all who need assistance due to illness or other circumstances. Our Council is scheduled to assist in serving the Emmaus Meal on Saturday, December 14.

C. Faith Formation - This group is actively seeking members from Holy Name and St. Clement Parishes to assist in planning our combined Faith Formation Program; which meets here at the St. Dominic complex.

D. Stewardship - This committee needs to work toward the completion of the Parish Directory, now that Fall Festival is completed. Due to time constraints, this book may not be complete by Christmas as previously planned.

E. Evangelization - The first “Morning of Reflection” program went well, even though attendance was somewhat limited.

F. School - no report.

11. Other Business:

Council members were reminded that we are to serve at the “First Weekend Social”, following all Masses on the weekend of October 5 and 6. Jeanne passed out updated guidelines on the duties of volunteers at these socials.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on Monday, October 21, at 7:15 PM.

Our next pastoral Council meeting is Monday, October 28, at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted: Leo Schneider