**Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish**

**Pastoral Council Minutes**

**Monday, August 12, 2019**

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| X Fr. Arul Ponnaiyan, Pastor | X Dennis Wojtecki, Prayer & Worship Liaison |
| X Dick Buschmann, Chairperson | X John Kramer, Stewardship Liaison |
| X Jamie Grunewald, Vice Chairperson | X Jean Jablonowski, Human Concerns Liaison |
| X Lisa Gilvary, Secretary | X Kate LaGosh, Christian Formation Liaison |
| E Kathryn Crumpton, Trustee Treasurer | X Lynn Molitor, Trustee Secretary |

**Attendees:** X - Present, E - Excused, A - Absent

**Opening Prayer**

Fr. Arul provided the opening prayer.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the Pastoral Council meeting of June 10, 2019 were approved as written.

**Introduction of Visitors**

Two members of the St. Paul Pastoral Council, Barb Budzinski (chairperson) and Diane Henschke, were present as observers.

**Update on St. Thomas Aquinas Academy (STAA)**

Brian McManus, chairperson of the STAA advisory board, and STAA Principal Frank Edgeworth provided an update on the school. The advisory board wants to strengthen the relationships between the school and the six member parishes. Students in each grade level are required to volunteer, and the board would like to find ways for volunteer hours to be done in the parishes. The school is working on finding the best way to communicate consistently with the parishes. A suggestion was made to resume printing regular reports on STAA in the church bulletins.

The school is planning an activity called “Adopt a Parish” in which students will research the history of the cluster parishes, and parish members will visit classes to talk about their parish. Any ideas about enhancing communication betwee the parishes and STAA are welcome. Contact Principal Edgeworth at: edgeworthf@staamke.org.

**Fr. Arul’s Installation Mass and Reception**

Linda King reported that Fr. Arul’s installation as pastor will be celebrated at Mass on August 17 at St. Paul Church. Bishop Jim Schuerman will attend, and there will be a reception following the Mass. Pastoral Council members are encouraged to attend.

**Discernment of Council Officers and Commission Liaisons**

Council members accepted assignments as follows:

Dick Buschmann, Chairperson

Jamie Grunewald, Vice Chairperson

Lisa Gilvary, Secretaryand Liaison to the Finance Council

Kate LaGosh, Liaison to the Christian Formation Commission

Jean Jablonowski, Liaison to the Human Concerns Commission

Dennis Wojtecki, Liaison to the Prayer and Worship Commission

John Kramer, Liaison to the Stewardship Commission

**Pastoral Council Formation**

Council members discussed their aspirations for the coming year. Several mentioned the desire for greater communication among the council members and with the parish at large. Fr. Arul said he looks to the Council to help him determine what the people in the pew need.

Council members will read chapter 7 of the Archdiocesan Manual for Parish and Pastoral Councils to aid in discussion at the next council meeting regarding ongoing formation of the council.

Fr. Arul is arranging a retreat day for the pastoral councils and staffs of SHJ and St. Paul’s at the Schoenstatt Retreat House. He will send an email with potential dates.

**Fr. Arul’s Comments/Administrative Items**

Fr. Arul had no additional items to discuss.

**Update on 150th anniversary celebration:** Events continue to be well attended.

**Finance Council Report**

* The budget for fiscal year 2019-2020 remains a work in progress.  While the Finance Council has reviewed preliminary budget requests, nothing has been approved yet.  SHJ has received a budget extension from the Archdiocese.  Approval expected in September or October.
* Fr. Arul and the trustees are working to meet with the condo owners in order to get to know one another, review agreements, and make decisions on a few items that remain outstanding.
* Roles and responsibilities in regard to counting collections are being reviewed and revised due to the retirement of our bookkeeper.  The trustees are helping Chris Stemwell in the supervision of the counting.
* We will be encouraging parishioners to take advantage of online giving for their contributions in an upcoming bulletin announcement.
* When submitting invoices to be paid by the parish, members need to sign the invoice and note what the invoice is for.  This will help to determine how it should be accounted for.  When appropriate, have the committee head or leader sign it as well.
* Soon both SHJ and St. Paul’s will be a favorite charity to select on Smile.Amazon.  Details to come.

**Commission Reports**

Commission reports were submitted and are available for review.

**Open to All**

No additional items were discussed.

**Next Council Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 14 at the Parish House.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Gilvary