**St. Martin of Tours Parish**

**Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes: February 24, 2021**

**Mission Statement**

St. Martin of Tours Parish strives to be a vibrant, welcoming, Roman Catholic Community, and to accept the call and challenge of Jesus through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.  We commit ourselves to the Word of God through Eucharistic worship, lifelong Catholic education and formation, and works of justice and stewardship.  We further strive to follow the example of our patron saint, Martin of Tours, to proclaim the kingdom of God through our generosity, love and service to one another and our neighbors.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Members | Present (Y /N ) | Members | Present (Y /N ) |
| Fr. Terry Langley, SCJ (Pastor-ex officio) | Y | Rosemary Karnowski (Human Concerns) | Y |
| Ken Keefer (Chairperson) | Y | Tom Van Handel  (Worship) | Y |
| Patti Pluta (Formation) | Y | Joyce Schlachter (Vice-Chairperson)  (APC Rep) | Y |
| Renee Martin (Secretary) | N | John Howard  (Finance) | Y |
| Paul Rotzenberg  (Stewardship) | N | Bob Mihm (Trustee ex officio) | Y |
| Tri Le – Vietnamese Rep | Y | Pat Boyer (Trustee ex officio) | Y |
| Fr. Joseph Quang Tran, SCJ (Associate Pastor ex officio) | Y | Chuck Schneider | Y |

**Unable to Attend**: Renee Martin, Paul Rotzenberg

**Opening Prayer:** Ken Keefer

**Guests Present:** Katie Delemont

**Parish Community Comments:** Good news.

**Approval of Minutes:** Meeting began at 7 P.M. John made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2021 meeting, which was seconded by Bob. The motion was voted on and was passed by the committee. Minutes will be updated on the parish website.

**Pastor’s Report:** Fr. Terry

We have given money to various groups and recently received a request from the Catholic Extension Society out of Chicago asking for a $1,000 donation. In addition, Father received the formal request from the Ethiopian priest that he lives with that was presented last month. The Ethiopian priest wants to go back home but cannot due to the civil war there. He is in need of additional financial support in order to remain here.

Reconciliation during Lent is still by appointment. This should be publicized so that parishioners know that there is a way to go to confession.

**Neocatechumenal Way Group Discussion:**

Father Terry suggested that we discuss this at another time.

**Rebuild:**

1. 360 degree study: Statistics are being researched; March 1 is the next meeting.
2. Time and Talent Survey: Responses continue to come in for review. No deadline, so a reminder needs to be placed in the bulletin.
3. Word on Fire Engage: Pat encourages us to look it over. If there is strong interest, it may be purchased by the Parish at a cost of about $2,000/year. Study programs are also included in this adult Christian formation program. The Pastoral Council will review again after Lent to see if we can justify spending the money based on prior usage.

At the end of the meeting, it was discovered that our next meeting will not be until after our trial expires. Therefore, Tom moved that we subscribe to The Word on Fire Engage, which was seconded by Joyce. The motion passed.

**Parish Committee Reports:**

* Formation: Katie Delemont, Christian Formation, joined us. The 7th and 8th grade students have written essays for The Moment You Encountered Christ in Your Life essay contest. One entry needs to be selected to move on to the national competition. Copies were provided for our review and selection. Katie is interested in being a part of the parish review. She is also working with St. Alphonsus Parish in developing a summer camp June 20-25th here at St. Martin of Tours. She would like to incorporate families into this experience, perhaps planning a tailgate event. The Archdiocese sends adults to help supervise the children and she asked us to join, as well. Katie wants her students and families to feel more connected to the parish as a whole. They have been learning a new prayer every month, and suggested that the prayer be included at weekly Mass. Service to our Community: The students are collecting items for St. Ben's in Milwaukee. Katie would also like to start encouraging the students to read for Mass again and maybe serve as ushers, too. This year we have 66 students participating with 14 virtual.
* Stewardship: Nothing to report.
* Worship: Report sent previously for our review. There is an interest in investigating use of electronic votive lights since open flames are not permitted due to Franklin Fire Department code.

Pat mentioned that seating in parish on Ash Wednesday was an issue as numbers were over capacity. It was suggested that we plan on taking reservations for Easter Masses.

* Human Concerns: Nothing to report from the committee. Bob received information from the Archdiocese of local groups they had vetted. The list forwarded to us contains organizations that we have previously donated to, but there are also other organizations worthy of our attention. We continue to be in search of groups to which we should provide support.

Deacon Chuck suggested that we set some control factor so that we keep a cushion of the funds For Those in Need. Bob said that we do indeed have a cushion as suggested by Deacon Chuck. John made a motion that we spend the $34,000 as presented by Bob, which was seconded by Rosemary with no modifications. The motion passed that we donate the money as specified by Bob on the document presented. Deacon Chuck suggested that more money be directed toward All Saints as he is very familiar with the work done by that parish and suggested that we keep donations geared toward Catholic organizations.

**Finance Committee Update:**

* January 2021 Financial Reports and Comments: The January 2021 Financial Reports were provided to the members and are incorporated herein by reference.
* Donations are down approximately 10 percent. However, donations to the HOTROD fund for the parking lot have been steady and we are under $43,000 short of recovering that amount.

**Old Business:**

* Loop Sound System – Deacon Chuck: Received a bid of $3,800. The limiting factor is that we need to have better wireless service in the church; having two providers come in to provide service quotes. Renee needs to contact Deacon Chuck to get a photo taken for our committee photo board.
* 2020-2021 Council Schedule
  + 4-28, 5-26, 6-23

**New Business:**

• Election Committee Selection: John will reach his term limit this year. Tom is no longer interested in renewing his position. Elections will be held in May; therefore, an election committee needs to be formed made up of individuals outside of the committee. We may need someone to speak at Masses to encourage people to prayerfully consider this ministry, perhaps in April after Easter. Flocknote and the parish bulletin could be used as two methods to get the word out to the parishioners.

**Closing:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by John and seconded by Bob. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**Our Next Meeting:** Wednesday, April 28th @ 7:00 in the Science Room.