

Minutes Pastoral Council meeting July 11, 2023, Egg Harbor 12 to 2 pm

Topic	Discussion/Comments	Decisions
Members present	Dcn Abts, Fr. Farrell, Chris Schmitz, Tom Polacek, Kathy Wolff	
Opening prayer	Deacon Tony spoke of St. Benedict, the father of monasticism. Members discussed one of his key ideas: how you pray affects how you work.	
Review of minutes	Minutes approved as submitted	Send to Lorie for posting on website.
Role of the Pastoral Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Be the eyes and ears and sounding board for the pastor” • “Be informed-aware of and support important issues/matters/changes in our parish community.” • Determine that there is alignment between the plans the parish has made and the groups that are executing the plans. Council members must be informed and able to respond to parishioners’ questions. • The Council reports to the community with the Annual report. <p>Being a liaison is a mission and role. How well are the liaisons functioning? If groups do not meet, the council is not connecting with all parish groups.</p> <p>The parish depends on the leaders to meet so that groups within the parish exchange information. This connection helps the Council gauge the progress of parish as it moves from “from maintenance to mission.”</p>	Schedule discussion of liaisons’ role at another meeting.
New Council members	New members did not receive communication about the meeting. The April minutes named Heidi Keen, Kim Ristau, and Lori Carlson as interested in joining Pastoral Council. Deacon Kurt Grube is also interested. The day of training planned for June 23 did not occur.	Tom will reach out to Mike and Sharon for information about recruitment. <i>Reread the Handbook.</i>

		We need contact information on new members.
Mission Planning update	<p>Deacon Tony distributed a revised copy of the Parish Mission plan and reviewed changes.</p> <p>Last year ownership of the plan shifted to the Pastoral Council. Members of Council have experienced Entrust so that Pastoral Council can train leaders and keep groups within the parish aligned.</p> <p>Deacon stressed that we are looking for a sense of being drawn to Christ.</p> <p>Adult FF has continued to work on discipleship</p> <p>2nd priority is building connections with people</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discipleship Formation 2. Evangelization 3. Community Engagement 	
Parish Annual Report	<p>Several documents pertaining to the report need to be updated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact information for chairs of Commissions, Committees, Aligned groups • Chart of commissions/committees • Committee/Council/Cemetery reports—Sharon will spearhead communication and collecting these reports. 	Deadline for all reports is August 15.
Pastor's update/comments	Father said the Council is doing well.	
Scheduling Pastoral Council Meetings	<p>Tom prefers laying out the whole year at once.</p> <p>Chris favors more frequent meetings; 6x per annum; minus December</p> <p>Go to mass together or adoration</p> <p>Mass and dinner afterward</p>	Defer this discussion to the next meeting.