

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Friday, August 12, 2022, 1 PM to 3 PM
Sister Bay

Present: Fr. Tom Farrell, Deacon Tony Abts, Sharon Brabson, Jean Krebs, Terry McArdle, Angela Packard, Tom Polacek, Mike Trebotich, Kathy Wolff

Welcome and introduction of new members: Sharon Brabson opened the meeting at 1 pm and welcomed Michael Trebotich as a new member and Terry McArdle as a guest. She announced that Jim Schorer has joined Pastoral Council, and that Chris Schmitz may be joining the Council. Pastoral Council will meet in Egg Harbor because internet service is best there.

Reflection and prayer: Sharon read the gospel for the Assumption, Luke 1:39-56, and two reflections on this gospel. Members reflected on the topic of how we could “better live as disciples on a journey to our true home in heaven.” Among the thoughts shared were that we need to develop Mary’s availability and her faith and trust in God.

Review of June minutes: June 2022 minutes were approved as written.

Member roles for FY 23: Because Pete Passuntino, Jean Rabel, and Pat Gureski are no longer members of Pastoral Council, Council needs to recruit for the following roles:

1. Vice-President: duties include functioning as a parliamentarian and chairing meetings in the absence of the president. The Vice-president does not automatically become the President.
2. Liaison to CSR Committee
3. Liaison to Parish Life Committee

Looking ahead to June 2023, the terms of the current President, Faith Formation liaison, and Worship Commission liaison/Secretary will end.

- Council will need a new president for FY 2024.
- Both liaisons may serve another term.

Tom Polacek shared the [attached] two slides showing the Stella Maris Organization Chart and the Commissions. These questions/suggestions resulted from the ensuing discussion about organizational alignment:

1. Consider having all the members of committees within a commission meet annually to share ideas and gauge their impact.
2. It appears that there is a conflict between time and resources. How does the parish resolve that?
3. Each council member should be reflecting on recruiting and how to improve the way we recruit.
4. Dcn. Tony will send PC members the list of parishioners who indicated a desire to serve on Pastoral Council on their Stewardship cards.

Entrust Training Update: Deacon Tony shared that in June a team from the diocese trained 33 additional members of the parish by leading them through a “deep dive” in discipleship.

Participants learned about what discipleship means on a personal level, a family level, and on a parish level. In discussion this question was posed: “How does an idea move from committee to community?” These ideas surfaced:

- Discipleship Formation is our priority. In September the parish group will take another group of parishioners through discipleship training with the assistance of Heidi Rosenthal. This training will give us the tools we need to share our faith.
- We must start evaluating the things we do to gather people together. Examples are the Stewardship appreciation event and the activities promoted by the Living Justice Commission. Experiencing the love of Jesus changes us.
- We should make sure there is an interest in projects we undertake. Without interest, the work will not happen.

Finance Council report on One by One Campaign:

The diocese wants to raise \$70 million to fund vocations, strengthen our parishes and lead others to Christ. Stella Maris is part of last group of parishes conducting this campaign in the diocese. Thus far the campaign has been very well received.

Terry McArdle explained that funds raised in the campaign will be split evenly between the diocese and the parish until the parish reaches 150% of the original sum the diocese set for our parish. The parish has named two priorities for funding going forward:

1. establish a \$505,000 capital improvement fund
2. add \$1 million to the parish’s endowment.

Parishioners will be asked to make pledges and repay them over the next five years. Realizing that the parish would not be fund-raising during the 5 years of the One by One campaign, the Finance Council set a goal of \$2 million so that by the end of the 5 years the parish would have funded both its capital improvement fund and have been able to place \$1 million in the endowment.

Once the endowment reaches \$2M, our parish will be able to withdraw up to \$80,000 per year to help underwrite the cost of worship and liturgy in the parish.

Fr. Tom told us that the priests of the diocese were each asked to contribute \$6000 to the One to One campaign. In processing how he could meet this commitment and considering that this payments can be made over 5 years, Father realized that he would be comfortable approaching parishioners to make the same kind of ask.

Annual Report Update and Annual Meeting Plan

Sharon has received all but two reports. She will put the report together.

Tom Polacek previewed program for the September 29, 2022 “Stewardship Appreciation Open House” that will be held at the Sister Bay site. We are expecting 100 attendees. The evening will begin at 5:30 pm with music by Dcn. Tony and his band playing gospel and bluegrass. Sharon, Terry, and Chuck will speak that evening as part of the Annual Meeting that is expected to be 25 minutes long. Music will resume after the meeting, and food will be served.

Liaisons should encourage colleagues in their respective committees/commissions to attend this appreciation event.

Pastoral Council Calendar Review:

Members reviewed the draft calendar for FY 2023 and determined to hold all business meetings at Egg Harbor. No other changes were made.

The meeting was adjourned with a Prayer for Peace at 3 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Wolff

Next Pastoral Council meeting:

12-2 pm

October 4, 2022

Egg Harbor