

Pastoral Council Zoom Meeting Minutes May 26, 2020

Present: Sharon Brabson; Paul Liss; Mark Kunstman; Pete Passuntino; Tom Polacek; Jeanne Rabel; Kathy Wolff

Sharon Brabson convened the meeting at 1:35 with an informal check-in followed by a reading of our Mission and Vision statements by Pete Passuntino and Paul Liss respectively. Additionally, members read and reflected on the gospel from Pentecost using the “Lectio Divina” format provided. Members noted the commands to the disciples who had hidden “for fear,” were “I send you,” and “Receive the Holy Spirit.”

Sharon stated that the **purpose of the meeting** was to keep the group together and to talk about succession planning. Members commented that consistent meeting times/days make scheduling meetings easier, builds group cohesion, and keeps us current on parish matters.

Review of Minutes from April 21, 2020

Discussion: Because there is no need to note the absence of a member-at-large, Michelle Piatek should not be listed as absent. Minutes were approved pending the above change.

Council Membership

Discussion: Sharon reviewed Parish Council Bylaws. Chair and Vice-chair serve three year staggered terms. Chairman Paul Liss will resign from the Council when his 2nd term expires at the end of June. After discussion, we discerned that Sharon will become Chairman, that Pete will become Vice-Chair, and that Kathy will continue as Secretary. Council members suggested names of other parishioners as potential members, and Sharon agreed to call them.

Parish Updates:

Communion Service: Sharon summarized the diocese’s plan to hold Communion Services on Sundays in Sister Bay. In the interest of safety for all involved, several questions were posed:

1. Was there an infectious disease specialist involved in making the decisions about the communion service?
2. Do protocols follow the CDC guidelines?
3. How will we be sure that people will use masks? Council members believe that masks are very important and strongly suggest that communicants must wear masks, that they practice social distancing, and practice hand hygiene.

As liaison to the Worship Commission, Kathy will seek and share answers to these questions.

Daily mass: Fr. Tom will say mass on Tuesday and Thursday at Sister Bay at 8 am and perhaps at 9 am as well if attendance warrants. Depending on the interest, Father could add masses on Wednesday and Friday in Baileys Harbor.

All agreed that Mark should place a “Welcome” banner at Sister Bay.

Complete Council Evaluation and Planning Input by next Meeting

Discussion: Tom stated that he believes the Council needs to spend time planning the planning process. This is necessary to set expectations within the parish leadership about what we want to accomplish with our planning. Early on we should answer questions like how does our planning synch with the Diocesan “One by One” planning; what’s the best way to achieve buy-in within the parish; and what outcomes are we seeking with this plan. Additionally in conjunction with requesting input from all the groups on the parish’s organizational chart, the Pastoral Council should spend time developing a 1st draft of how we believe we are doing in carrying out the parish’s mission.

Successful planning will enable us to produce a report that uses the data collected in the annual report surveys to illustrate how parish groups have furthered the parish’s mission and vision. The results of this kind of planning involves parish leaders and better grounds the Council to set parish goals for the year ahead. Tom noted that our July meeting provides an opportunity for this kind of planning. Tom offered to create and circulate a 1st draft targeted at the question of “What is our evaluation of how well the Parish Mission is being carried out?” for the Pastoral Council to build on.

General Discussion:

Q: A question about how communication between the staff and council occurred and noted that that the council should have a representative from staff as a non-voting member. Sharon told us the Kevin is our staff liaison.

Q: How is the parish doing financially? A: We are not doing as well has we have done, but we have already met our Bp's appeal. Pete offered to reach out to the Finance Council for further information.

Discussion about Mark's email about communication:

Mark believes that the interim of virtual attendance provides a unique perspective from which we can reassess the ways the parish communicates with parishioners, and that we might investigate other options in order to attract as many parishioners as possible to the parish and to connect them with each other.

Tentative plans for next meeting: July 31 from 1-3. The planned all day meeting will occur at another time.

Closing remarks: Council members thanked Paul for his years of leadership on the council and wished him joy in his retirement at the end of June.

Sharon lead the group in prayer and adjourned the meeting at 2:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wolff
May 28, 2020