**St. Thomas More Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

August 9, 2018 7:00 PM, Final

7:03 PM Call to Order

Members in Attendance: Father Chuck Adam, Pam Bourjaily, Grace Christopher, Tracy Clapp, Ann Elsbecker, Ann Houlahan, Keith Less, Bill Mausser, Tony Ringgold, Leigha Rios, Kim Schmitz, Shirley Schneider, Norma Ward

Members Excused: Dimy Doresca, Marijke Nielsen

Members Absent: None

Guests: None

**A.**  **Prayer for our Parish Discernment**- by all. This will be our opening prayer for the coming year.

**B.** **Review of June 14, 2018 Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**-Motion to approve minutes by Pam Bourjaily. It was seconded by Norma Ward. Vote all in favor, no nays and motion carries.

**C. Comments from Fr. Chuck**

**1. Finance Council personnel change**- Fr. Chuck said that member Sheila Goins has relocated out of the area with her family. He has asked local realtor Stacy Schroeder to take her place on Finance Council.

**2.** **Joy of the Gospel, Listening Session, Vision 20/20 from Bishop Zinkula**

Pope Francis has written **Joy of the Gospel.** The intent is to promote discipleship and evangelization at the local parish and diocese level. In preparation for this, Shannon Duffy, Director of Religious Education, is planning 3 book study sessions for our parish members in October. We as a pastoral council will also take time during our next 3 meetings to discuss the book. Fr. Chuck will schedule a Parish Listening Session with a diocese facilitator which will provide the basis for discussion and identify participants from each parish as preparations are made for the regional conversation called the Vision 20/20 Convocation. Pope Francis and Bishop Zinkula are encouraging their flock to think about ways we all can reach out, invite others and evangelize in our communities. Fr. Chuck has provided the shorter Group Reading Guide to Joy of the Gospel to all members of Pastoral Council but also encourages us to read the original book as he says it is exceptional. During our September meeting council meeting, we will read the introduction and first chapter in order to prepare to discuss the question: In what ways does (name of) parish reflect this vision of constantly going out beyond the four walls of the church to reach those who are not with us on a regular basis?

**3. Summary of Parish Expansion Study**

Fr. Chuck explained that there has been a very strong response to the Parish Study of the Expansion of St. Thomas More. There were 364 survey participants. There is overwhelming support to have a campaign to pay off the current debt and build a new church. Percentage of households in favor of the campaign: 92.1%. Percentage that will financially support a campaign: 95.4%. Building option preference: West-74.8%, East-25.2%. Parking is a major issue which needs to be addressed. The diocese has approved the process of moving forward to look at a capital campaign. The Expansion Committee will have further meetings with Andy Gaertner, our diocese facilitator. The diocese does have a requirement that 60% of funds must be raised before construction could begin.

**D. Items from PC Members**

**1. Calendar for PC Meetings/Time**-Bill asked PC members if current PC meeting time of 2nd Thursday at 7 PM is still an appropriate meeting time. Members concurred that this is a good time to meet.

**2. Final Version of PC Membership Roster August 2018**-Bill asked all PC members to please verify their contact information. He will send a final version to Maricarla Rohret. Bill will also be sending an email to all PC members to make sure we have an updated email group. Members are to respond when they receive so he has confirmation.

**3.**  **Welcome Ministry**

Leigha and Norma reported that **both** will be co-chairs of the Welcome Ministry. They explained the process being planned for the Welcome Ministry. Initially it will involve Confirmation students and their parents who will sign up to be at Mass and open doors, hand out worship aides and welcome all who enter. The ministry will then move to the next phase with “connect ministers”. These one hour trained ministers will be present at the Welcome Desk to answer questions and help new members register. The goal is to attract newcomers, retain members and integrate them into the parish family.

**4.**  **Ushers**

Pam stated that there is an acute need for ushers especially at the 5:15 PM Mass. Announcements at church and in the bulletin will be made.

**5.** **Situation Awareness**

Tony has information that he will be sharing regarding Situation Awareness Training. This may help us identify areas at STM where we could all be more aware to help keep us safe. Tony will be sending information to Bill so that we can have a discussion on this topic.

**6. Old Business/Reports and Commission Meeting Minutes**-PC Liaisons share information from their commission meetings:

a. Church Life/Family Life Minutes

b. Finance Council Report-We are on schedule to meet and exceed the ADA (Annual Diocesan Appeal)

c. Regina Board of Education Update- The Board had a successful retreat in July. Please join in Regina’s Family Fun Festival Aug 17/18. Please see Regina.org for list of a activities.

d. Religious Education Minutes

e. Social Justice/Social Action Minutes

f. Worship and Spirituality Minutes

g. Youth Ministry Minutes

**7. 2018-2019 STM Pastoral Council Agenda Timeline**:

a. Update to Stewardship form and possible Stewardship Fair

Norma will be asking all commission heads to verify all information on the Stewardship form. We also will need to add Welcome Ministry (or whatever group name is decided) to the Stewardship form. There was some discussion as to what the new ministry’s name should be (Welcome Ministry vs Greeter Ministry).

b. Review of election process-Norma and Kim- Jan 2019

c. Possible Addendum to Bylaws regarding terms of commission chairs-Spring 2019

d. Coordinate May election weekend with Worship and Spirituality Chair-Feb 2019

**E. Closing prayer**- Fr. Chuck

**A Prayer for our Parish Discernment**

God of all Creation, we praise you for your Glory revealed in our parish family. Guide us as we seek to fulfill our parish mission in our growing Corridor community. Our patron, Saint Thomas More, offered his life out of love for You. May our sacrifices allow your Gospel to spread in our community and enable us to be a parish for all people in all seasons of life. With the divine assistance of your grace, help us provide the More our future demands. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Meeting adjourned 7:58 PM

Respectfully submitted by Kim Schmitz