

St. Catherine of Alexandria
8661 North 76th Place, Milwaukee, WI 53223

St. Catherine of Alexandria, the church on the hill since 1855, joins together as a Catholic community to give praise and thanks to God by living and sharing our faith in Jesus Christ through our worship, formation and outreach.
With our cluster parishes, we strive to make Christ visible to our wider community.



Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2017

Attendees: Council members Sue Armacost, Ralph Boeckl, Marie Brushafer, Lynne LeMense, Jeanette MacMurdo, Sue Niemi, Les Paulson, Rick Korpela (Trustee Treasurer), Pat Lehman (Trustee Secretary), and Debbie Hintz (Parish Director)

Health issues prevented Maureen Conaty and Lyn Keever from attending.

No other parishioners were present.

Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. and Jeanette MacMurdo led the opening devotion.

Approval of the November 22, 2016 Minutes

It was noted that no Project Proposal Form now exists, but one is being developed.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rick, seconded by Pat, and adopted.

Committee Reports (questions/clarifications)

- Lynne LeMense reported that the Christian Formation Committee, at its December 5, 2016, meeting, had considered the 1% Challenge. Debbie noted that while each of our cluster parishes is considering this, it is not a joint project of the three parishes. In her report, Lynne also noted the challenge of working with and respecting each parish's unique traditions. The committee has acted and will continue to act on steps that can be taken to increase participation in Christian Formation classes.
- Lyn Keever had no meeting to report, either past or yet scheduled, even though she thought it important that the School Advisory Committee work on recruitment to Northwest Catholic. Also mentioned in her report was Catholic Schools Week, which will be Sunday, January 29, to Saturday, February 4.
- The Finance Council, Human Concerns Committee, Prayer & Worship Committee, and Stewardship Committee reported no meetings since November 22, though Marie Brushafer related that the Stewardship Committee was continuing to work with others reviewing images about our logo search art.

Steering Committee Report

Debbie related that Fr. Greg of St. Bernadette has requested approval from the archdiocese not only to continue his pastorate at St. Bernadette but also to become pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope when Fr. Mike retires and later to become pastor of St. Catherine when Debbie retires. No word has yet been received from the archdiocese, not surprisingly inasmuch as appointments are made in the spring. The proposal, said Debbie, makes sense since leadership arrangements for our three cluster parishes must be made anyway. Debbie stressed that Fr. Greg's request was not just his own idea, but had grown out of group discussion. Cooperation on the Lenten reading program of the book "Rediscover Jesus" is continuing. Membership and financial information has not yet been received from each cluster parish. Maps showing geographic distribution of membership of cluster parishes will be considered and explained.

Parish Council Elections/Nomination & Selection Committee

Jeanette MacMurdo, Lyn Keever, and Marie Brushafer, now completing their second year of service on the Council, will be the committee. Sue Niemi will offer advice and counsel.

Parish Director's Report

Debbie commented further on the Lenten reading group meetings; planning is going well with groups being formed in each parish and a four week schedule of meetings being arranged, including a large group meeting on April 1 at St. Bernadette.

A new tenant is being sought to replace *Right Step* next school year; there will be budgetary considerations if no new tenant is found.

Katy Young has begun her work in the parish office as Director of Administrative Services.

After going before the city's Zoning Board of Review, it was determined the proposal to enlarge the cemetery will not require any zoning changes or permissions from the city, but permission to expand is needed from the archdiocese. Plans to replace the angels are still pending. A map of the proposed expansion was available for all to see.

Casino Night is being arranged, with a good response so far. Pat Lehman happily noted that the roulette wheel in the narthex was her idea.

Right Step has a deposit to be returned provided the building is left in good shape. Rick suggested that attorney Ken Voss be asked to suggest what especially a review of the building's condition should watch for.

What are you hearing?

Jeanette noted that St. Bernadette may not have been so good a place to hold the joint choir concert, which might be well to keep in mind as facility use is considered in our increasing cluster cooperation. As a choir member, Sue Armacost affirmed that judgment. With particular regard to the concert, it was agreed that St. Catherine's choir stands out in numbers and in quality.

Among the three cluster parishes, only St. Catherine had a Christmas Eve (and not only Saturday afternoon) mass.

Ralph commented favorably on the youth sports league use of the St. Catherine gym.

Closing Prayer

All present joined in the "Prayer for the Mission of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee." At about 7:45 p.m., the meeting was concluded.