

St. Catherine of Alexandria, Milwaukee  
PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
October 22, 2019  
6:30 pm Granville Room

**Attendees:** Debra Hintz, Rick Korpela, Pat Lehman, Bill Protz, Judy Dollhausen, Barbara Holt, Nicole Hartley, Nick Kwaw, Sue Niemi, Patrick O'Neil, Sue Wassenberg

**Absent:** Anisha D'Silva

**1. Opening Prayer:** Barbara Holt

**2. Approval of September 24, 2019 Minutes**

Rick moved to approve and Nicole seconded the motion after these changes: list attending members in minutes; Human Concerns meeting at 6:30; \$5,000 for community garden.

**3. Comments from Parishioners Who Are Present**

No parishioners were attending.

**4. Discuss Tri-Parish Cluster three-page spreadsheet dated 07/02/2019.**

This is a handout from the Archdiocese. Numbers reflect gradual declines since 2004, possibly affected by leadership changes, changing neighborhood and other factors such as surveys or our school closure. The process and time line for replacing Debbie was discussed.

**5. Planning for the Future Update**

Debbie explained the survey that will be available throughout the Archdiocese in Lent. It is a much more extensive survey than the one we made available in June. We need to encourage as many people as possible to reply so that the snapshot of the parish that we will receive in May or June 2020 will be as accurate as possible.

*Parishioner Response (one page) Summary Discussion*

Regarding our parish survey, the responses were overwhelming positive. With approximately 50 people responding, though, we heard from a small percentage of the parish. The one area that we would like to move forward with is engaging our young adults. As a first step, it was decided that Debbie will bring a listing of parishioners in their 20s and 30s to the next meeting and council members will make phone calls. The format of those calls is yet to be decided.

**6. Read/Discuss Parish Council Manual pp.46-48**

This will be moved to a future meeting.

**7. Council Standing Committee Reports**

Human Concerns: Nothing new to report. The next meeting is November 11th at 6:30 p.m.

Prayer and Worship: Their next meeting was schedule for November 12<sup>th</sup>, but with Andy's leaving it is uncertain at this time when they will meet.

Stewardship: Highlights from the most recent Stewardship meeting, held September 30th:

- The date for the Appreciation Social will be April 24, 2020.
- *Walk With Me* pamphlets were looked at and discussed for this year's financial stewardship campaign. They will be sent along with the commitment card, the financial report and a cover letter the week of October 27th.

The next meeting is November 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Tri-Parish Christian Formation: No report. Not certain of next meeting date.

## **8. Finance Council Report**

The Finance Council is meeting in two days and has not had a meeting since our last pastoral council meeting. There was some discussion of why the parish income seems to dramatically fall -- or rise -- over the years. People do tend to give more at the end of the calendar year. More parishioners are now giving a one-time annual donation through their IRA. Weekly giving has also gone down when we've had special collections like Restoring Our Buildings and Faith in the Future. The report in the bulletin only covers envelope and loose offertory donations.

## **9. Parish Director's Report**

### *Staffing: Andy's replacement*

This a difficult time of the year to be looking for any staff for a parish. Music ministers are also in very short supply. We will be relying on guest organists/pianists for the immediate future.

### *Debbie's status*

The Archdiocese knows she would like to leave St. Catherine in August. Since this is an out-of-the-ordinary time to leave, she is waiting to hear back from the Archdiocese for approval of that time frame.

### *Security Plan for the Parish*

Several parishioners have been approached to assist with a plan. An Active Shooter training sponsored by the MPD will be attended before the committee meets.

### *Other*

The columbarium blessing on Sunday was beautiful. We will be obtaining bids for completing the columbarium area next spring, including possible MATC student landscapers for the gardens. The statues will be finished but there is not a firm date yet.

## **10. Next Things**

Date of Councils/Staff Christmas party -- Jan. 11, 2020 after 4:30 p.m. Mass

01/14/2020 Pastoral Council Meeting date change instead of January 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **11. What are you hearing?**

People are noticing our yard signs.

**12. Next Meeting:** November 26, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

## **13. Closing Prayer**