

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

May 22, 2018

Attendees: Pastoral Council members Debra Hintz, Rick Korpela, Pat Lehman, Sue Niemi, Sue Armacost, Les Paulson, Ralph Boeckl, Barb Holt, Jeanette McMurdo and Sue Wassenberg. Absent were Barb Holt, Jeanette MacMurdo and Lyn Keever (excused). Bill Protz, recently elected to the Council and officially to become a member next month, was also present.

Opening Prayer

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. Debra Hintz and Sue Niemi led the opening prayers.

Presentation regarding partnership with St. Michael/St. Rose Parishes

We were privileged to have Fr. Rafael Rodriguez and Sister Alice Thepouthay, representing St. Michael/St. Rose parish, present at this meeting. St. Michael, originally a German parish, has become impressively multi-cultural and multi-lingual. Both parishes are used as worship sites, with masses being celebrated in a multitude of languages. Many immigrant people have special needs, from learning English to vocational needs to housing. Many other parishes are already contributing support. Many more recent immigrants are from Myanmar. Not surprisingly, many masses are multi-lingual; fortunately, a priest with knowledge of southeast Asian languages was recently added to the staff. What kind of help would be useful? First, visit and join in worship. Then maybe choir exchanges, maybe financial support (the parish has some building needs that would support and enable its ministries), maybe embracing volunteer opportunities. The people of the parish are more appreciative than demanding. It was suggested that we could perhaps arrange for people to visit St. Michael and attend a mass there.

Approval of the April 24, 2018 Minutes

Recommendations for revisions to the Deanery report and the planning process (regarding Jeanette's question about why no all parish meeting (plans are being made on focus groups and in the tri-parish committee that will eventually be reported to our parish) were made and will be incorporated into the official minutes. A motion by Sue Armacost, seconded by Ralph Boeckl, that the minutes be approved as amended was passed.

Pastoral Council Elections/nomination committee

Sue Armacost reported that Nicole Hartley, Bill Protz and Patrick O'Neil, were elected at the May 20 election. These new members will officially be received at our June meeting.

Focus Groups/Listening Sessions Update

On hold for now, planning will resume with a meeting on June 13.

2018-19 Budget Report

Boiler replacement is included in the 2018-19 budget. Cleaning, lawn care and snow shoveling services have been engaged and are included also in the budget at higher costs than hiring our own maintenance employee.

Committee Reports (questions/clarifications)

Sue Niemi again urged that committee liaisons promptly get their meeting reports to the secretary. Ralph Boeckl, reporting for the Human Concerns committee, noted that that the committee heard a presentation on human trafficking in Milwaukee, encouraged attendance at the May 23 screening (in the Granville Room) of *Milwaukee 53206*, and summarized Lenten giving for the four selected causes, a total of \$5,602. The committee's next meeting will be July 9.

Parish Director's Report

People will be asked about their interest in a columbarium; an explanatory flyer will appear in the bulletin. We still have the acre of land for a community garden; the Milwaukee County University of Wisconsin – Extension is possibly interested in developing the garden for us. They will be back in touch with Debbie after June. Current signage has disappeared. Debbie in contacting the Department of Transportation to see about replacement.

What are you hearing?

There is increase attendance at the 9:30 a.m. mass. But there is less participation and it is harder to get eucharistic ministers and lectors at the 4:30 p.m. mass.

Sign-up sheets will be distributed for food and drink contributions for next month's Council potluck.

Closing Prayer

All present joined in the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Les Paulson, Secretary