

Saint Pascal Baylon Catholic Church
Social Justice and Caring Committee
Minutes of the Meeting Held on Thursday, November 7, 2019

Present: Martha Arko, Anna DeCrans (and her daughter), Bill Dorgan, Ann Karner, Christine Malec (minute writer), Margaret Malec, Bonnie Steele, Mary Weyandt and Julianne Wojick

One Body

The committee members discussed the One Body meeting taking place at the parish on Saturday, November 9, 2019, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Bonnie reviewed the agenda for this event with the committee members.

- The first part will take place in the church. (Prior to this, coffee and rolls will be available in Brioschi Hall.)
 - Fr. John Mitchell will welcome the participants, give an opening prayer and discuss connections to the immigration issue.
 - Bonnie Steele will share part of her family's immigration story.
 - Ann Mongoven from One Body will give a brief history of the organization and invite people to become involved.
 - Bonnie or Ann will offer a land acknowledgement.
 - Parish Pastoral Associate for Music, Sharon Balcom, will lead a song/litany.
- The second part will take place in Brioschi Hall.
 - Three people will share their personal stories:
 - Carlos Morales,
 - Mary Reiman and
 - Catalina Morales. (Catalina will open a conversation regarding how faith speaks to immigration in the present day.)
 - A brief call for financial support.
 - Box lunches will be provided.
 - Those present will participate in a sample house meeting lead by the table captain.
 - There will be a call to commitment to hold house meetings and to participate in upcoming caucuses.

Bonnie stated that approximately 150 people are registered for the event and that additional persons may be present if they attend without having registered. She said that, as of now, two children will be in the nursery.

Ann stated that she has gotten six parishioners to provide hospitality for the event.

The committee members discussed the possibility of offering a caucus training and/or house meeting at the parish - depending on the interest of those from the parish who participated in the event and that of other parishioners.

It was mentioned that the next One Body meeting will take place on Thursday, November 21, 2019, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at St. Francis Cabrini church in Minneapolis.

Angel Tree Ministry

Mary reported that she will speak to pastor Fr. John Mitchell about the Angel Tree ministry (a program that provides the children of incarcerated parents with Christmas gifts) to determine if he has received additional information regarding the children assigned to the parish.

Committee Project Ownership

Bonnie asked the committee members to review the projects listed on the agenda to determine whether they would be interested in taking ownership of any of them.

Social Justice Library

Chris announced that the bookshelf for the social justice library has been completed and that the books previously housed on the cart have been transferred to it.

Chris said that Fr. John asked her if the committee members would be okay with having other religious titles (but non-social justice-related) added to the bookcase. The committee members stated they were fine with this but felt that all the books added to the case should be vetted prior to being put on the shelf to ensure they reflect Catholic teachings as well as the character of the parish. Bonnie suggested empowering a parishioner with this task. Some of the committee members felt this parishioner should have a theology background.

Next Meeting

Due to the fact that the November 7, 2019, was shorter than usual, the committee members decided to have an additional meeting on Monday, November 18, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the Staff Lounge to cover the unaddressed items on the agenda and to review the One Body event.

Ann Karner volunteered to lead the prayer at the November 18, 2019, meeting.