

St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council
Wednesday, April 20, 2022
Cascia Hall East Meeting Room

Members in attendance: Fr. Michael, Ruth Adamczyk, Marilyn Butler, Carol Derga, Myra Fox, Bill Greinke, Bob Mitchell, Pat Rossman and Jean Weaver. Also, in attendance was Dennis Collins, Trustee.

Excused: Sharon Gierahn

Absent: Leora Kaiser

Guests: Steve Kaczmarowski and Chuck Janzer

The opening prayer and lighting of the Christ Candle was led by Father Michael at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The February 8, 2022 minutes were approved with a selected revision under the Pastor's Report by Dennis Collins and Ruth Adamczyk.

A discussion followed regarding Siena School system.

Building & Grounds Report and Update: Steve Kaczmarowski, head of Building & Grounds had a meeting with the PPC to discuss the monastery and what we should do with it. Any decision to made will come down to the cost. As it stands, right now, it costs the parish on average \$52,107.00 per year for the past 3 years (2018-2021); which is \$4,342.00 per month for expenses and maintenance. Fr. will be asking parishioners if we can determine a purpose or use for the building. We had the architectural firm, Zimmerman, come in to evaluate the monastery in 2019 regarding the interior of the building and what would the cost be to bring the building up to code. At that time, the cost would be \$1.2m for the project. Steve then mentioned that we will be needing a new roof at the cost of \$277k and tuckpointing needs to be done at a cost of \$150k and these are very conservative estimates new windows are needed in the old church as 1 window blew-up by self-combustion and the others are very brittle and could break at any time. That cost would be approximately \$100k. Also, plumbing work will be need on the water and steam pipes. Asbestos removal is another factor that comes up. There is no estimate in the Zimmerman report on the removal of asbestos and this removal would have to done regardless of any direction we go. To raze the building, the cost would be \$847k which takes into account of selling the fixtures, doors, etc. out of the building. Even if we mothball the building and walk away there is a cost attached with insurance and minimal upkeep. There are other options: 1.) if we would like to sell just the building 2.) the building and the property in front of it 3.) the building and all property. The possibility was discussed that Payne and Dolan might be interested in purchasing the property and how that could give us the monies needed to move our parish to another location and build another church with all the needed amenities; but without a school. While the parish owns the property, this option would require working closely with the Archdiocese.

Fr. will be sending out a letter to ask the parishioners to suggest a use for this building as we, the parishioners, have a stake in all of this. He will also be outlining all the options listed along with the costs. It was brought up that many of the parishioners are totally unaware of the cost associated with the maintenance or expenses of the monastery.

Several potential uses have been suggested recently including housing of Afghan refugees; turning the monastery into a homeless shelter; and renting the facility for the use of another church's food drive operations. Besides the costs to bring the building up to occupiable use, there are the issues of safety, handicap accessibility of which there currently is none, and insurance issues. Rental situations pose additional costs and operational requirements not favorable to our situation. A suggestion was put forth that an organization such as HALO might be able to undertake the costs of repair and upkeep through their own money raising efforts, but the proximity to the school might pose a problem, even if they were interested. Each of these suggestions would require a nearly \$2M expenditure just to be able to address these possibilities.

Siena School has some awareness that we have concerns regarding the monastery. Dennis brought up the issue that St. Rita cannot afford to keep this building up any longer.

It was also discussed that the church offices should be moved over to the church shortly while the discussion of the monastery continues to evolve. We can't continue to pay the \$15k-\$25k per month on expenses. The north side of the narthex will be made into the new church offices which will use the entire space. This could happen quickly in order to shut down the monastery building and turn off the utilities. That includes selling off windows, doors and any items of value and then boarding up the building. Once done, there will be no use of the facility and it will be kept idle and unoccupied.

Pastor's Report:

Capital Campaign Process Update: Father and Suzanne will be meeting with Joshua Gross from the Archdiocese on April 26th at 3:30 to go over the preliminary findings.

St. Rita School: Siena School system is aware that the school boiler is breaching, it's 5-6 years old but sometimes when you install a new boiler and use the old piping it doesn't work out well which is our case. Three quotes have been obtained by Sienna from JM Brennan, United Mechanical and verbal quote from AccuTemp. JM Brennan was given the project at \$33,600.00, the reimbursement of the labor cost is \$11,200.00 which leaves \$22,400.00 for material and with the 89% / 11% split between school and parish our portion of the bill is \$2,400.00. It's also planned to remove asbestos tile from 2 classrooms this summer.

Nomination Schedule: I have listed below the PPC members who volunteered to speak at the following masses:

Saturday, April 30 th at 4:45p	Jean
Sunday, May 1 st at 8:00a	Myra
Sunday, May 1 st at 10:30a	Bill
Saturday, May 7 th at 4:45p	Ruth
Sunday, May 1 st at 8:00a	Bill
Sunday, May 1 st at 10:30a	Myra

We are taking nominations on both of those weekends with a due date of May 8th. It was also discussed to make sure that the names that were submitted last year and who did not make the Council should be nominated again. Jean will check with Amy on this.

Ruth, Pat, Marilyn and Sharon will be on the Nomination Committee for this year. The members rotating off this year are Bill, Lee and Carol. If any of these members would like to stay for another term they can as each of them has served only 1 term and you are allowed 2 terms.

Planning Committee & Census Update: The census is now completed and the information is now being updated into the system by Kathi and Suzanne will be compiling the data collected for our use.

The Planning Committee continues to organize and plan for the recruiting and training of discussion leaders (facilitators), session recorders, and observers. They continue working on a running list of topics/questions for focus group discussion and have an outline of how the sessions will run. Once the census data is compiled then survey groups will be targeted and approached for participation. Jean has contacted a few people who have shown interest in being a facilitator. PPC members will be asked to be Observers to better understand the overall survey results as the PPC then develops a long-term plan for the parish. The next meeting of the planning committee will be at Pat's house on April 28th at 7:00p.

Open/New Items:

PFC Budget: Dennis reviewed the proposed budget from the PFC in detail. We all received copies of the proposed budget for our review. After a discussion and some further explanation of the budget the PPC approved it as presented. A motion was made by Myra and seconded by Jean. Dennis did note that the collections are up from last year. People are starting to come back.

Volunteer Policy: We all received copies of the policy for our review and Jean stressed the importance of making sure our volunteers are made aware of them. Also, this will be discussed at the next festival meeting.

Synod on Synodality: This is a 2-year program generated by Pope Francis. This program is to see how parishes are moving forward on reaching follow parishioners to get their feedback. We will be using information that we gather from our focus groups.

Parish Information Booth at the Festival: Information of our parish will be made available and any questions answered. Bill will be organizing this activity and attending the next festival meeting to discuss its setup and function. The booth will be open from noon to 4:00p Saturday and Sunday and will be manned by PPC members.

Upcoming PPC Dates:

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

The closing prayer was led by Father Michael at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patricia Rossman".

Patricia Rossman
Secretary
St. Rita Parish - Parish Pastoral Council