

Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council
March 24, 2014

Present: Fr. Phil Reifenberg, Jeanne Bitkers, Kathy Pluskat, Leo Schneider, Don Holmes, Steve Straus, Sue Sellars, Maureen Stoelb, Eileen Diener, Mary Karls, Bill Thiele

Excused: Brett Goebel, Pam Duessing, Peter Bergman, Beth Grebe

Guest: Tammy Kuhnen

1. The opening prayer was led by Leo Schneider.
2. There was no parishioner input or questions this month.
3. Father reported that Pastor Diane Loberger is gravely ill and we are to keep Pastor Diane and the parishioners of St. Peter's in our prayers.
4. Greg Spaeth and Beth Grebe were both contacted about fulfilling the unexpired Council term of Carla Schommer. Greg is not able to perform these duties at this time; therefore Beth Grebe has been appointed to complete Carla's term of office (until spring 2015).
5. Tammy Kuhnen gave a report on the activities, goals and needs of the music ministry. The budget for this ministry has been presented to the Finance Council; there is no increase in funds needed over this year. There was a decrease in income listed from weddings and funerals for use of the media system as the numbers of both are declining. Funds raised for use of the media system covers all expenses of this area for the year.
The music ministry consists of four choirs, Youth (new), Funeral, Classic, and Contemporary. Choir membership has been in a slow decline, although there are new members in all choirs and there are always openings for new members in all the choirs, as well as for Cantors and Media operators. There are about 100 volunteers in the Music Ministry.
Although Tammy has been directing the Media Ministry and giving some guidance to the people who plan the Liturgies, her job description lists her as head of the Music Ministry, only. While her staff position would include a seat on a Liturgy Committee, she does not have the time or the expertise to gather and form a new Liturgy Committee. This area needs to be addressed by Council and by Parish Staff.
6. Due to Steve Straus being out-of-town, there is no report from the Finance Council. He did report, however, that the meeting focused on the Archdiocesan review of our Parish financial procedures and on the formulation of the 2014/2015 budget.
7. Council discussed the group's goal of forming a new Worship Committee. It was decided that those who lead the following groups: Home Communion, Lectors, Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, and Sacristans, would be joined into a group called the Ministry Support Team. This group would meet several times per year for formation and program synchronization/coordination purposes. This group would be separate from the Liturgy Committee but would be in close contact with this

Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council
March 24, 2014

Committee to assure that all work together to achieve meaningful worship in our Parish.

The Stewardship Committee has stated that they would assist in displaying the functions of various organizations within our Parish through use of the Media Ministry and bulletin boards; they are looking for some direction from Council on how to proceed with this.

8. Our April meeting will be a joint meeting with the Councils of Holy Name and St. Clement Parishes, at Dominican Hall at St. Clement, at 6:30 PM. Our Council will meet separately from the others for a short time to cover April agenda items. Possible agenda items for the group meeting include north-side parish collaboration in the areas of Evangelization, RCIA, and Marriage Preparation.
9. The Nominating Committee reports that nomination forms for members of both Pastoral Council and Faith Formation Committee have been distributed to the parishioners, nominations are due back to the Parish Office by Sunday, March 30. Fr. Phil is also soliciting nominations for the office of Parish Trustee; those are due by the middle of April.
10. Committee reports:
 - A. Human Concerns - The Thanksgiving Dinner will be at Immaculate Conception Parish, not at St. Dominic's. There will be an organizational meeting on this on March 25. There will be a Teen Ministry fair here on Sunday, May 4.
 - B. Faith Formation - no report
 - C. Stewardship - Time and Talent Weekend will be May 30/June 1. The Parish Directories will be distributed shortly after Easter. The committee is talking about conducting a Parish Census.
 - D. Evangelization - This group is coordinating a series of discussions on Wednesday evenings in Lent, titled "Conversion". These explore our ever-deepening relationship with Christ.
 - E. School - no report
11. Other Business:
 - A. There will be a joint meeting of the Pastoral and Financial Councils on Monday, May 19, to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of Fr. Phil's Ordination. This will take place at the Town & Country Club. Please see Jeanne Bitkers for details.
 - B. We are to consider possibilities for a Council retreat to be held this summer.

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be at St. Clement Church on Monday, April 28, 6:30 PM, in Dominican Hall.

Respectfully submitted: Leo Schneider.