

Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council
May 22, 2017

Present: Fr. Phil Reifenberg, Mary Karls, Don Holmes, Leo Schneider, Peggy Kress, Jeanne Bitkers, Kevin O'Brien, Jane Watry, Ken Sedmak, Matthew Rostollan, Peter Bergman

Newly Elected Members: Laura Graney, Kate Nienhuis, Maureen Stoelb

Unable To Attend: Steve Scharrer, David Horner, Jane Kautzer, Brad Bulkow

Guest: Mike Short

1. The opening prayer was led by Jane Watry.
2. Mary Karls welcomed the new members to the council and we each introduced ourselves. Mary explained that Brad Bulkow could not attend.
3. In parishioner input, Mike Short introduced himself and explained that he was the new chair of the Stewardship Committee. Mike stated that he would like to promote Stewardship through the words of our Parish Mission Statement.
4. Mary asked for input on any additions or corrections to the minutes of the joint Councils' meeting held last month; she will convey these to the chair, Pat Dinolfo.
5. In his Pastor's report, Fr. Phil stated that Vince Karls will be the new Trustee, Secretary, replacing Jane Watry, whose term is ending. Vince is therefore stepping down as chair of the Stewardship Committee. Father asked the council members to commit to an annual retreat or day of reflection as a way to maintain focus on the goals and mission of our parish. He also suggested that the council perform an annual review of the Pastoral Council Norms and our Pastoral Council Appendix, as these are the rules by which we exist and operate. Father also reminded the Council that there will need to be two liaison assignments to the Finance Committee when those assignments are made at the June meeting.
6. Peter Bergman gave the Finance Report. Income, especially from envelopes, continues to be well ahead of budgeted amounts; while expenses continue to lag projections by a considerable sum. Due to a rather large net operating surplus, the parish is embarking on a number of needed repair projects which were not previously included in the budget; these are all to be completed by June 30, the end of the fiscal year. On an added note, Mass attendance numbers continue to be above those of last year.
7. Mary explained the proposed norms for a provisional council, to be formed during the transition to our "2020 Plan", for the coming fiscal year. The Council members voted whether to accept or reject these norms by secret ballot; the vote was positive by a substantial majority.

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8. Committee Liaison Reports:
- A. Seton School – A policy was approved that would not allow the use of cell phones in school during the school day. Enrollment for the 2017/2018 school year is well under way. A new principle, Dr. Stephanie Nordi, has been hired. The annual fundraiser, The Mane Event, was a huge success, the best one ever held. The stipend paid by St. Dominic Parish to support the school operations will increase by \$4,000.00 next year. There will be three open positions on the school board for next year.
 - B. Stewardship – The committee is conducting the annual “Time and Talent” survey, and is in need of a chairperson for the Fall Festival.
 - C. Prayer & Worship – The lectors from the three parishes are working together to better proclaim a unified message. The committee wishes to promote more programs such as the Evangelization Summit (Note-Evangelization Summit 3 will take place on the last weekend of April next year). They are also working to publicize the memberships and purposes of the standing committees at St. Dominic Parish, beginning a mentoring program for new parishioners, planning a Graduation Mass for June 4, and planning for the Mass schedule changes on the weekend of June 24/25. Recordings of specific sessions of the recent Evangelization Summit will be available for parishioners in the Parish Office, soon.
 - D. Human Concerns – The Easter Lily and Mother’s Day flower distributions went very well and were greatly appreciated. At this time, this committee is not participating in the programs being promoted by SCIO.
 - E. Faith Formation Program – The committee is considering moving the EDGE program to Wednesday evenings. Vacation Bible School will be held the week of June 12. Fall Festival will be on September 17. Fall FFP classes will begin the week of October 8.
 - F. Jeanne Bitkers explained the operation of the “Deanery” program; this is a twice-yearly (spring and fall) meeting of one or two representatives from each parish in our district, Sheboygan and Fond du Lac counties. One time the meeting is in Sheboygan County, at St. John the Baptist – Plymouth; the next it is in Fond du Lac, at Holy Family Parish. Our Council Vice-chair is our parish representative to this group, which discusses what is working well in our parishes. This representative then reports at the next Pastoral Council meeting.
9. Mary stated that, at our June meeting, we will review council goals and discuss council activities for the past year. Please plan on attending.
10. Our parish will be celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2018. We should all be thinking of special events that could be promoted by the various committees to celebrate this milestone. Liaisons should invite the chairs of our parish standing committees to our June meeting to explain and expedite our transition to a combined pastoral council.

Our next Executive Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, June 14, at 6:30 PM.

Our next Council meeting will be on Monday, June 26, at 6:30 PM.

The prayer leader at that meeting will be Peggy Kress.

Respectfully submitted: Leo Schneider