

Minutes, St. Dominic Pastoral Council
May 28, 2013

Present: Fr. Phil Reifenberg, Jeanne Bitkers, Kathy Pluskat, Leo Schneider, Beth Grebe, Bill Thiele, Eileen Diener, Carla Schommer, Don Holmes, Mike Short, Maureen Stoelb, Mary Karls, Steve Straus, Peter Bergman, Pam Duessing

Excused: Mary Calteaux, Sue Sellars, Brett Goebel, Greg Spaeth, Vince Karls

1. The opening prayer was led by Maureen Stoelb.
2. Fr. Phil reports that a new priest has been selected to serve at Holy Name/St. Clement Parishes after Fr. Jim Connell retires. His name is Fr. Matthew Widder. Fr. Matthew is a native of Sheboygan Falls, so he is no stranger to the area. He will begin this ministry later in June. The Finance Council has finalized the budget for 2013/2014; Fr. Phil believes it was a great effort in that it predicts a \$64,000.00 surplus at the end of the fiscal year. While the Pastoral Council should work with the Finance Council to formulate the annual budget, that activity was minimized this year due to the work that the Pastoral Council was doing to finalize its operating procedures and membership.

This year is shaping up to be a busy one for events affecting all of us as Catholics; the publication and study of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Letter, planning for the upcoming Synod to be held next year, Evangelization Initiatives, our own Fall Festival, the Parish Directory, and a new priest in the neighborhood. Fr. Phil feels that it would be in the best interests of all of us to halt plans for a Parish Mission in fall to help relieve a “too full” calendar.

3. The Council broke into 3 small groups to discuss the first two chapters of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Letter, “Who Do You Say That I Am”. The Council then rejoined to learn what each group had discussed.

4. Steve Straus gave the report for the Finance Council.

In April, envelope revenue was down 21%

Expenses were \$12,519 below budgeted amounts

Income was about \$3,700 lower than the amount budgeted

Some of the revenue shortfall was due to the fact that April last year had 5 Sundays, one of which was Easter.

Year-to-Date, compared to budget numbers:

Envelope revenue is up .5% or \$2,428

Income is down \$34,567

Expenses are down \$69,173

Net operating income is up \$39,000

5. Ongoing Agenda Items:
 - A. The final draft of our Pastoral Council Appendix, our “operations manual”, has been sent to the Archdiocese for approval.
 - B. Items that Parishioners or Council members feel need discussion or action by the Council need to be presented to the Executive Committee prior to their meeting on the 3rd Monday of the month.

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C. Beginning in June, the Pastoral Council meeting minutes will be published in the bulletin, along with reminders of dates for Executive Committee and Council meetings.

D. It has been established that the Pastoral Council of St. Dominic Parish would meet jointly with the Council of Holy Name/St. Clement parishes twice a year. To begin this process, there is a social gathering planned for the two Councils on Monday, June 3rd at St. Clement Church. The social will begin at 6:00 PM, with the meal being served at 6:45.

6. New Agenda Items:

A. The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School Board consists of seven, at-large members; of which three should be from St. Dominic Parish. Mary Jante serves as the Board Chair, Denise Goebel and Renee Zenk were the other two representatives. Renee had asked to resign and has been replaced by Marilyn Schmidler. Denise's term of office is ending and another interested parishioner is needed to take her place

B. We will be celebrating the feast day of St. Dominic on Thursday, August 8th. Final plans for this event are not yet in place.

C. Deacon Don Lydolph (and Jane) will retire as of June 13th, after 32 years of service to St. Dominic Parish. Don says he will not leave us "cold turkey" but will relinquish his duties gradually. Fr. Phil is hoping that a new candidate for the deaconate program would step forward and help fill the roll that Don and Jane have done so well in over the years. Some sort of event is needed to thank Don and Jane for their service; this is in the early stages of planning.

7. Committee Reports:

A. Worship Committee - The committee has studied structure and mission statements of other similar groups and is formulating a structure for our committee. This process will be completed over the summer months with the committee meeting in its new structure beginning in September.

B. Human Concerns - The Dedication and Blessing of the addition to the St. Vincent de Paul store will take place on June 20th. A joint meeting is being planned with the other north side cluster parishes.

C. Christian Formation - A meeting was held with the CFP representatives of all three parishes to plan for the CFP program to begin in fall. There is some "fear of the unknown" in moving the CFP program to our facility and concerns that the other parishes would not have an equal voice in the operations of that program. Efforts are being made to assure all committee members that their voices will be heard in this shared undertaking.

D. Stewardship - The Time and Talent Sign-up will take place on June 1st and 2nd. The plans for the Parish Directory are in place and that process will begin soon. Two people have stepped forward to be chairs for the Fall Festival.

E. Evangelization - Planning continues for the four "Mornings of Reflection", to be held on Saturday mornings at our facility. The dates for these are September 21st, October 19th, November 2nd, and November 16th; from 9:00 AM until Noon. These meetings will tie into the theme of the Pastoral Letter, as well as the ideals of St. Ignatius. Kathy Pluskat has also joined the "E Team" representing St. Dominic Parish.

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- F. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School Board - This group is working on its next budget and on board membership vacancies.
- 8. Just a reminder, our annual Town Hall meeting will be on Thursday, June 13th, at 7:00 PM, in the church.
- 9. The Council has decided by consensus to keep the current officers in place for the upcoming year. Kathy Pluskat's role as Vice-Chair will be expanded to include participation in the District 9 meetings for our area.
- 10. A reminder was given to keep the "ailing" members of our Council as well as those of our Parish and Community in our prayers.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on Monday June 17th at 6:30 PM
The next pastoral Council meeting will be on Monday, June 24th at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Leo Schneider