

Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
Church of the Holy Spirit, East Greenbush, NY
June 15, 2017 at 6:45pm

In Attendance: Amy Boel, Cathy Bruno, Nick Bruno, Deacon Bill Dringus, Kevin Haggerty, Rick Hannmann, Karen LaFrank, Ellen Murphy, Fr Joe O'Brien and Frank Putallaz.

Present: Eddie Trevino. ***Absent:*** Cathy Bellisario, Matt Heitker, Mike Kosar and Steve Wiech.

Opening Prayer – Fr. Joe opened with prayer at 6:50pm

Review of Minutes – Frank Putallaz offered a motion to accept the May minutes. Amy Boel seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted.

Old Business – none

New Business

Parish Pastoral Council direction and Council By-Laws

A revision of the By-Laws were reviewed by Council members.

-Language regarding Council membership from the same family (spouses and children) was adopted.

-A maximum of two youth, at least 16 years of age, may belong to the Council.

-It was determined that Council members (all members present) would vote for officers.

Nick Bruno will these changes to the By-Laws and send them electronically to Council members for their review and approval. If approved, the By-Laws would then receive final approval at the annual Trustees meeting on June 30th and be submitted to the Diocese. In response to a question from Ellen Murphy, Fr. Joe O'Brien indicated that the length of terms for Trustees is established by the Diocese.

Parish Pastoral Council survey

Fr. Joe O'Brien thanked Amy Boel, Ellen Murphy and Laura Countryman for preparing a bulletin insert summarizing the results of the Parish Pastoral Council's survey. The insert appeared in the June 11th bulletin. Fr. Joe indicated that, to date, he had received some positive comment from parishioners on the survey results but the number of comments was limited.

Parish and School Financial Report

Fr. Joe O'Brien announced that Nora Rucinski accepted our offer to serve as our finance person for Holy Spirit Parish and School. She will be working with Tracy Basila for three weeks in June.

At the end of May, the church reported a deficit of \$20,200 and the school reports a deficit of \$7,000. Fr. Joe reported that the end of year deficit for

the church was projected in the \$26-27,000 range while the school may end the year close to the break-even point.

Deacon Bill Dringus asked about the Finance Committee's progress on the improved offertory plan. The Finance Committee will meet over the summer to develop the plan.

Members asked about the process for tracking Mass attendance. Currently, the ushers track Mass attendance; however, attendance is not tracked regularly at our weekend Masses. Rick Hannmann suggested developing a sheet for ushers to take attendance. Amy Boel suggested that the coordinator (Frank Pirri) contact the other ushers to reinforce keeping attendance.

Frank Putallaz suggested tracking offertory envelopes to keep records. Nick Bruno asked about people who leave the parish and do we discontinue their envelopes?

Our Evangelist subscription bill was brought up for discussion. Fr. Joe believes there are 550-600 subscribers in the parish. The subscription cost is \$18 per year (about \$10,000 annually).

Currently, about \$42,000 in Bishop's Appeal gifts and pledges has been received. Our goal is \$57,666.

Holy Spirit Building Plan

Kevin Haggerty, Bob Picco and Fr. Joe O'Brien met with architect Paul Mays to discuss the direction for the first stages of Parish Center work which will center on relocating the garage and making entrances more accessible. Fr. Joe O'Brien had a follow up with the Town Supervisor; Paul Mays has had conversations with the Town Planning Board Chair. We hope to meet with the Town Planning Board this summer.

Some additional work on the church's air conditioning has been completed to prepare us for summer.

Holy Spirit School

Mike Kosar was unable to attend but he provided a report to Fr. Joe O'Brien to share. The rising eighth grade was discussed. Enrollment is currently at 2 students. Plans are to maintain the eighth grade and offer them instruction.

Next Meeting

Planning for September, Board members opened our officer slate for consideration. Kevin Haggerty was selected as our President for the new year. The Vice President position remains open. Eddie Trevino was asked to take minutes of our meetings. Our next meeting will be September 28th at 6:30 pm, day of night subject to change. Closing Prayer at 8:30 pm.