

**St. Peter Church
Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes of Meeting
September 11, 2018**

Present:

Rev. Jerome P. Foley
Sr. Hilda Sandoval, M.F.P.
Jim Dahlstrom, Music Ministry
Denise Allen, Faith Formation – Confirmation
Eileen Barsi
Kathleen Bissell
Theresa Kannengeiser
Eric Romero
Frances Romero
Judi Steele

Absent:

Dale Fajardo
Kevin Kannengeiser
Vickie Newman
Lisa Wuerstle

Call to Order

Kathleen called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

The council welcomed Denise Allen who has replaced Bettyann Motylewski as the Director of Faith Formation – Confirmation. Members introduced themselves and Denise shared her background and experience.

Opening Prayer

Kathleen led the council in an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes

Kathleen reminded the council that minutes of the July 24, 2018 meeting of the Finance Committee and the minutes of the last Pastoral Council meeting of May 8, 2018 were shared for review and comment. No further comment or corrections were received and the minutes were approved.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – In Dale’s absence, Kathleen referred the council to the draft minutes of July 24 and advised that the next meeting of the committee will tentatively be held on October 16, 2018. Kathleen also advised that Roxanne Ekhos, the parish accountant is currently working on an annual financial report to the Archdiocese.

Liturgy Committee – Eileen reported on the current activities of the Liturgy Committee and shared a draft of the 2018-19 liturgical calendar with the council. In discussion of the specifics of the “Blessing of the Animals”, the council considered several ideas for advertising this very popular event through the Pacifica Tribune, parish website and Facebook page. Eileen urged all council members to attend the blessing on September 30 at 1p.m.

Eileen reminded the council that Liturgical Ministry Formation includes a required Archdiocese training session for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers. A schedule was included in the handout which lists details of the training sessions scheduled for October and November, 2018.

The Procedures Guide for Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion at Mass is nearing completion and Eileen thanked the numerous parishioners who provided insights and recommendations. This guide will be added to the procedures already developed for sacristans, prayers readers and lectors.

At Father Jerry's request, Eileen reported on the preparation for a Parish Mission during Advent this year. Father Nathan Castle, author of "And Toto, Too", will lead parishioners in what promises to be a joyful celebration of faith and spirituality. The program will begin the first week of Advent and will last 3 days. The council discussed several ways to advertise this excellent program and encourage participation.

As discussed previously, Eileen has been working on scheduling "Welcome Dinners" for newly registered parishioners. Preliminary plans are in the works with an goal of having the first dinner in late October or early November with future dinners scheduled every other month. The intent is to invite approximately 20 people, including the newly registered and volunteers from the parish to host and attend.

Music Ministry – Jim reported that choir practices has recently resumed and he is happy to note that many members have returned to share in this joyful ministry. He described several new techniques he has introduced to help build communication between choir members and encourage networking and support within the choir. He is also working to educate the choir on the importance of coordinating the songs with sacred scripture. A recruitment for the children's choir is underway and he suggested that a teen choir might also be developed.

Faith Formation -- Sister Hilda provided an update on the Faith Formation activities. In the RCIA program there are two candidates, one individual who will be preparing for the Sacrament of Baptism and another who will become Confirmed. In addition, 5 children will be Baptized at Easter next year. In addition, there are 31 children preparing for First Holy Communion in 2019. In the children's Faith Formation program, 90 children are currently enrolled but registrations continue to be accepted. Sister is doing a proactive registration outreach to second grade students.

Sister also updated the council on the Children Safety Program required by the Archdiocese. All volunteers and Catechists must be finger-printed and an online certification program must be completed.

Denise reported that Faith Formation for grades, 7, 8 and 9 is just beginning with 46 students enrolled. Denise has extensive background in Faith Formation and has already implemented changes that complement and support the other programs. For example, educational materials for this year have been selected from Loyola Press which is consistent with that used by Sister Hilda. A parents' meeting will be held next week.

Old Business

Capital Expenditures – Father reported that there are a number of activities underway that will improve the church facilities. Next week, work begins on the gymnasium bathrooms with new sinks, mirrors and plumbing upgrades. In addition, phase one of two phases to replace the windows in the Religious Ed Building will be beginning. Father also outlined a number of other expenditures that have been made including a tree removal, purchase of a new tractor, paid for by a generous parishioner. Also, one half of the MegaDrawing funds were used to pay for the recently installed projector and upcoming sound system. The list of "to do" items includes the replacement/repair of worn chairs in the chapel and repainting the church. Eileen reported that the new church sound system is expected to be installed this coming month.

Frances suggested that the community would welcome information on these expenditures and, in particular, how the Maintenance Funds from the second collection are used. Kathleen offered to work with Father to provide a bulletin update. The council also considered the current outstanding balance of the Archdiocese Annual Appeal and discussed how to encourage parishioners to participate as we near the deadline at year end.

New Business

Faith in Action -- Eileen shared the current parish activities supporting a call to discipleship and described the elements of a Social Justice / Faith in Action program planned for October 14. Additional sessions on important topics supporting "living our faith" will be scheduled in the near future.

Other Stewardship Activities -- Eileen and Denise discussed the opportunities for the confirmation students to participate in stewardship activities, including the Second Harvest Food Bank, the Catholic Worker House in San Bruno and other ideas for parish service including help in the kitchen during events, assisting the Pajaro donation program in November/December and the annual Christmas Boutique. Denise also suggested that a Bake Sale might be considered.

Parking Issues – Kathleen advised that a number of parishioners are concerned that parking spaces are not been used properly and offered to work with Sister to add an item to the next bulletin to remind everyone that cars should not be parked too close to the lines or parallel to the rectory in order to allow easy exit from cars and to avoid damage or injury.

New Members Needed – Kathleen noted that several Pastoral Council members have resigned or have termed out. In addition, the Finance Committee could use a few more members. This is an important reminder that we should reach out to our friends (and introduce ourselves to strangers!) to encourage service on these important committees. Father Jerry underscored the effectiveness of "one on one" outreach.

Thoughts from Father Jerry

Father Jerry thanked Eileen for her work in arranging the logistics of the Parish Mission during Advent. He then suggested that consideration be given to have another mission during Lent next year. The council discussed an important topic and numerous resources that might be available next year.

Next Meeting: October 9, 2018

Closing Prayer

Kathleen led the council in a closing prayer.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:50p.m.