

## **Minutes of Resurrection Parish's Pastoral Council Meeting April 26, 2016**

- I. **Meeting of the Committees of Council:** The business meeting was preceded by the Committees of Council meeting in the church hall for one hour, beginning at 6:15 PM.
- II. **Call to Order and Prayer:** The business meeting was called to order at 7:23 PM by Terry Deitz, chair of the Pastoral Council. Father George opened the meeting with a prayer. The prayer was preceded by a moment of silence in remembrance of Donna Fellows, a Pastoral Council member who recently passed away unexpectedly.
- III. **Guest Presentation:** In breaking with the agenda, Terry introduced Steve Wingate of Life Touch who presented details on the feasibility of doing a parish directory and the benefits it would bring to the parish and the families of the parish. No additional Council discussion followed after Steve departed.
- IV. **Roll Call:** Present: Fr. George, Terry Deitz, Barb Dryzal, Lynn Popovich, Alice Voytko, Rick Pavic, Faith Thomas, Bryan Hodos, Jim Kopriva, Brian Basile, and Lindsey Selan. Absent: Brian Ahlstrom. Eric Anderson had previously resigned his position on Council; Michelle Rager, his replacement was also present. Also in attendance were the parish manager, recording secretary and six parishioners. A quorum was present.
- V. **Approval of the January Minutes:** The January minutes were approved with the two changes noted below:
  - i. Under the Education Committee report, item "iv" should read, "The committee is operating with an \$850.00 budget."
  - ii. Under the Activities Committee report, for item "iv," the last sentence is to be removed - "In regard to Masses at the Grove, Father George said that he will not duplicate Masses, i.e., have one at the church and another at the Grove. ~~The event planners will need to assess what location serves the greatest need, and then make a recommendation.~~"
- VI. **Father George's Opening Comments:** Father George reserved his opening comments until now. His comments centered on the parish's religious education program and the use of the Oratory as a place of prayer and Eucharistic reservation.
  - a. Christine Babik has been hired as the parish's new Director of Religious Education. She assumes her duties on July 11. Her qualifications make her well suited for the position.
  - b. After meeting with the religious education teachers, it was decided to move our religious education program for children to Sunday mornings. The program will include students from the first through the eleventh grade. To make this possible, the 10:00 AM Sunday morning Mass will be moved to 10:30 AM; religious education will take place between the two Sunday morning Masses.
  - c. Our Confirmation students will join those of St. Benedict Parish for their sacramental preparation. The program is under the direction of Sr. Cindy Burns, CCW.
  - d. Beginning on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, the Eucharist will be reserved at the Oratory. On that day, a procession will transfer a portion of the reserved Eucharist from Resurrection church to the Oratory building. Current plans are to keep the building open for prayer and meditation during office hours. If the need prevails, the building can also be used for presentations, discussions, and the like. Since an Oratory is a place

of prayer, no sacraments will be celebrated there. If that were ever to happen, the name of the building would be changed to Resurrection Chapel.

- i. At the current time, repair work being done in the building might not be completed by Corpus Christi. Nonetheless, the building should be ready enough for use. Some painting and the removal of dry wall covering some windows still need to be finished.
- ii. Plans call for moving the current tabernacle at Resurrection church to the Oratory. This tabernacle, the gift presented by St. Columba parish at the time of the merger, is more suitable in size for use at the Oratory. A larger tabernacle, similar in design, will be placed in Resurrection church. The larger and taller design of the replacement tabernacle will make it possible to use some larger ciboria.
- iii. The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who take Communion to the sick and homebound during the week will be able to obtain the Eucharist at the Oratory as opposed to Resurrection church, making the process less burdensome.

## **VII. Status of the Standing Committees:**

### a. Activities

- i. The following activities have been successfully completed this year:
  1. January Sizzler tickets were a sell-out
  2. Soup sale
  3. Knights of Columbus breakfasts
  4. St. Patrick March ticket
  5. St. Patrick's Day food sale
  6. Easter Bread sale
- ii. Upcoming activities:
  1. Upkeep and opening of the Grove
  2. Youth Group Bingo – May 15
  3. Summerfest 2016 – June 12
  4. *Groovin' at the Grove* – June 18, July 9, and August 13
  5. EthnicFest 2016 – September 2, 3, and 4

### b. Communications

- i. A parish youth group is emerging out of the Communications Committee. As the group develops, most likely its functioning will fall under the auspices of the Parish Family Life Committee.
- ii. The new format for the parish bulletin is still being fine-tuned.
- iii. Current hosting for the web site expires in June. Transiting from Drupal to WordPress as the platform is still being explored.
- iv. The parish's Facebook page is gaining recognition. Currently Father George, George Pisula, Brendan Veney, and Dawn Rager have editing privileges.
- v. The parish handbook is in need of updating. The current version is formatted in Microsoft Publisher.
- vi. Announcements being made at the end of Mass seems to be working well.

### c. Education

- i. The Lenten Day of Reflection held on Sunday, March 13 and had 18 attendees. A Jeopardy program format was used and it seemed to be well accepted.
  - ii. The adult faith discussion series *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* is currently on hold.
  - iii. The religious education program for grades 1 – 11 will be moving to Sunday mornings, between the two Masses. The 10:00AM Mass will be moved to 10:30AM.
  - iv. Our students undergoing confirmation preparation, both from public and parochial schools in grades nine through eleven, will be joining the St. Benedict program later this year. The program consists of six sessions and is under the direction of Sister Cindy Burns, CCW.
  - v. Sunday mornings, at the same time as religious education, consideration is being given to developing some form of adult formation. An organizational meeting will be held on the first day of class. All parents and other parish members are invited to attend. The RCIA program may be moved to that time as well.
- d. Parish Family Life
- i. The following events have already taken place:
    1. Celebration of Marriage – observed on February 6 at the 4:00 PM Mass with a dinner and presentation following at Aces Lounge
    2. A Time-Out session – three blankets were completed for the Martha/Mary House and bags were cut for homeless mats.
    3. Card Ministry - pencil art cards were made.
    4. Birthday Card Ministry – cards for children and shut-ins were mailed.
    5. Children’s Easter Party – Kris Moran chaired this event and the Knights of Columbus gave financial support.
    6. Ladies’ Social – the theme was *Home Sweet Home* with 29 ladies attending.
    7. Celebration of the Single Life – observed on April 23 at the 4:00 PM Mass with a dinner and social following in the church hall.
  - ii. The following programs are being planned or explored for the future:
    1. Heaven’s Treasure – a program for parents who have lost a child
    2. Calling All Teens (May 12) – Holy hour and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Bishop Mark and Sister Linda
    3. A program for divorced individuals
    4. Vacation Bible School – in June under the direction of Kris Moran
    5. Suggestion for a “Middle Ager” night
    6. Movie night at the Grove
    7. Repeat of Project Undercover
    8. Another men’s night
    9. A project to support our military members
    10. A “Time Out” weekend
    11. A soup covered dish (September 24)
    12. A program for caregivers
    13. This year’s mission trip has nine jobs on which to focus

14. Exploring the purchase and/or sale of window decals with the theme –  
Pray for Families

e. Liturgy

- i. Many favorable comments were received on the liturgies of Lent, the Easter Triduum, and Easter. One parishioner did comment that there was too much green and not enough color incorporated with the layout of plants and flowers for Easter; another person preferred the repository to be located in the church hall instead of the church proper.
- ii. As previously stated, the Eucharist will be reserved at the Oratory beginning with the Solemnity of Corpus Christi (May 29). The Oratory will be open during normal office hours.
- iii. First Eucharist is set for Sunday, May 1 at the 10:00 AM Mass. At 4:00 PM that same day, May Crowning will occur. The First Communion and Confirmation class students are invited to participate.
- iv. The extended Vigil for Pentecost is not being planned for this year.
- v. There will be a cemetery Mass on Memorial Day, weather permitting. The location is yet to be determined.
- vi. The effort to purchase new altar server albs is being tabled. There was a low response by the servers in responding to the request for their measurements. It is felt that this venture is too costly to pursue without the correct information. The Liturgy Committee will address this topic at a future date.
- vii. After some discussion, the consensus of the Council was that on the occasions of the parish picnic and *Groovin' at the Grove*, Masses should be held at both the church and at the Grove. An assisting priest will be sought to help on these days. Church Masses will remain at the standard time; the picnic Mass will begin at 10:30 AM and the Masses for *Groovin' at the Grove* will start at 5:30 PM.
- viii. The question was posed as to what the purpose of the Liturgy Committee is. In responding, Father George envisions the work of the committee to ensure that the worship space is prepared for the various liturgical celebrations following the guidelines set forth by the Church. This includes decorating for the various seasons. The scheduling and training of liturgical ministers also falls under the duties of this committee. Father went on to say that since the Church set the theme for each liturgical cycle, it is not necessary to spend our time trying to reinvent something already done.
- ix. It was asked how we could get more youth involved in our ministries. The basic guidelines for those who can serve are:
  1. Hospitality – any age
  2. Altar Serves – after receiving First Eucharist
  3. Lectors – grade 9 and beyond
  4. Cantors – any age
  5. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion – fully initiated members

f. Properties and Maintenance

- i. Refurbishing of the kneelers will be a volunteer project. A sample with padding and cover will be constructed to get a feeling for how much time will be needed to do the work. The wood portion will be replaced since there are so many

- staples in the old kneelers that it would not be effective to remove them. The metal frames will be repainted and the rubber bases will be replaced. A maroon vinyl will be used for the covers. Rick Pavic will investigate sources for the padding and the vinyl so that some preliminary cost estimates can be generated.
- ii. The church floor project is completed, but the project still needs some minor follow up. Some pew locations need to be addressed and some “white” areas on the floor due to over application of the final sealer need to be redone. The mats just inside the outside doors should be also be cleaned.
  - iii. The committee met with a manufacturer’s representative in regards to air conditioning for the kitchen in Resurrection Hall. It was agreed that a wall-mounted unit would be feasible to make the kitchen more comfortable during use. It will not “cool” the area, but it will reduce the humidity and temperature to a more tolerable level. A rough estimate for this project is \$5,000 - \$7,000. Also discussed was the cooling of the church basement as a phase 2 item and the cooling of the church proper as a phase 3 item. Some estimates for phases 2 and 3 should be available by the May Council meeting.
  - iv. Contractors will be contacted for bids to replace the ramp’s outer wall at the Parish Center. There are also several individuals who do this kind of work, and they will be contacted as well. The objective is to have this work completed this summer.
  - v. Separating walls in the Parish Center have been installed with some minor work still needed for completion. The door that was installed has a threshold that is too high and is creating a tripping hazard; this will be repaired.
  - vi. Old estimates for the painting of the church were reviewed. The cost is considerable for the complete painting, but there are specific areas where repair work and painting can and should be done. Some of the identified areas may be peeling due to moisture entrance, most probably related to the roof and/or gutters. These problem areas should be addressed and repaired prior to any remedial painting.
  - vii. Penndot requirements in regards to the Fourth Avenue sidewalk have still not been resolved. The committee members will make a concerted effort to work with Penndot representatives to resolve all requirements. City sewer work could possible affect the sidewalk area near the front of the church. For the aforementioned reasons, the committee recommends that temporary maintenance be done on the sidewalks and curb until all of these issues are resolved.
  - viii. The rectory kitchen remodeling is still in progress and should be completed shortly.
  - ix. The church basement windows at one time had metal bars, which have been removed. However, there are still holes in the stone where parts of the bars remain. These must be sealed to keep the bars from rusting, expanding and cracking the stone. This repair work can be done by our maintenance personnel.
  - x. The base of the Blessed Virgin statue, the gift from Immaculate Conception Parish, is in need of repair. The wooden base is somewhat spongy, showing signs of decay. Options for repair work will be explored.
  - xi. Many of the above items will be presented to the Financial Council to ensure that funding is available.

g. Youth of the Parish

- i. The Bags of Blessings collection, spearheaded by Lindsey Selan, was a success. Through this program, sponsored by Bishop McCort Catholic High School, take-home food items were collected for children who have no access to meals on the weekends. The project took place during Lent.
- ii. Lindsey announced her resignation as youth representative. The Council thanked her for her service. Father George said that a replacement would be appointed in the Fall.

- h. Cemetery
  - i. No meeting was held
- i. Finance
  - i. No meeting was held

**VIII. Comments from the Parishioners:**

- a. None

**IX. Old Business:**

- a. To date, eleven parishioners have agreed to be considered as replacement members for the Pastoral Council. Eight new members will be selected, bringing the Council to its full membership of twelve. The selection will take place at 10:00 AM Mass on Pentecost Sunday.
- b. Donna Fellows, a serving Council member who passed away on February 12, will be laid to rest at Immaculate Conception Cemetery on May 7 at 10:00 AM.
- c. The date for the Diocesan Liturgy Committee's *Day of Reflection for the Year of Mercy* scheduled for Resurrection Parish on October 22 has been changed to October 29. The previous date was in conflict with the Diocese's *Catholic Life Day of Prayer*, which will be held at Mount Aloysius on October 22.

**X. Comments from the Parishioners:**

- a. None

**XI. New Business:**

- a. It was suggested that the Pastoral Council members make appeals at the weekend Masses in regards to the Annual Catholic Appeal. The parish is responsible for paying any shortcomings of our goal, however any overages come back to the parish tax-free.
- b. Since the formation of our parish, two Pastoral Council members have died while serving. They are Joe Weinzierl and Donna Fellows. Moneys were collected for a memorial for Joe. That memorial has not yet been executed. The Council felt that Donna should be memorialized as well. It was suggested that engraved pavers be placed in the newly created garden area of the Grove as a fitting memorial.
- c. Father George mentioned that some parents are in a quandary over the newly restructured Catholic elementary school system in the Johnstown area. Tuition will be costly at \$3,200 per year and many parents are left with many questions to be answered.

**XII. Comments from the Parishioners:**

- a. None

**XIII. Pastor's Closing Comments:**

- a. Father George made a statement about a comment about planning for events at the parish, especially those that will require parish funding: Father made it clear that he needs to give his approval before such events and/or projects are scheduled.

**XIV. Adjournment and Blessing:**

- a. At approximately 8:54 PM a motion for adjournment was made and seconded. The meeting concluded with the Council reciting the Doxology after which Father George bestowed his blessing.

**Upcoming Pastoral Council Meeting**

\* Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 7:30 PM

**Upcoming Standing Committee Meetings**

\* Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 6:15 PM

Submitted by  
George G. Pisula, Recording Secretary