

**Tentative Minutes of Resurrection Parish's Pastoral Council Meeting  
September 20, 2016**

- I. **Meetings 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 Opening Prayer:** Bryan Hodos, chair of the Pastoral Council called the business meeting to order at 7:26 PM. Father George opened the meeting with a prayer; neither Bryan nor Father George had any opening comments.
- III. **Roll Call:** Present: Fr. George, Joe Strihan, Ray Gorman, Tom Elias, Bryan Hodos, Jeff McKissick, Steve Reasbeck, Faith Thomas, and Michelle Rager. Excused: Mary Hammers, Rick Pavic, and Larry Sestrich. Tom Elias was welcomed to his first meeting. Tom took the place of Fran Ozog who resigned his seat on Council for personal reasons. Also in attendance were the parish manager, recording secretary and three parishioners. A quorum was present.
- IV. **Approval of the June Minutes:** The August minutes were approved with one change. Under the Parish Family Life committee report (VII, d, iii), October 8 was changed to October 1.
- V. **Status of the Standing Committees:**
  - a. Activities
    - i. An Ethnic Fest wrap-up meeting is being planned for late October. Issues experienced this year as well as tentative plans for 2017 will be discussed.
    - ii. Fundraising events for the remainder of this year and early next year include the selling of Sizzler tickets, the Meat Raffle, Holiday Baking, the Ladies Auxiliary Basket Party, two Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfasts, and the St. Patrick's Day Party. More discussion is needed in hopes of rejuvenating interest in the St. Patrick's Party.
  - b. Communications
    - i. The committee had no meeting and at the current time there is no Council liaison to this committee.
    - ii. Father George and Dawn Rager work on keeping the parish's Facebook site updated. George Pisula maintains the parish's web site.
  - c. Education
    - i. It is too soon to evaluate the effects of moving the Religious Education classes from Wednesdays to Sundays.
    - ii. Father George reiterated his resolve on class attendance. For too many years we have been a Church of convenience, leaving our

students undereducated in our faith. Three unexcused class absences will result in the student repeating the year. The only exception will be if the student does the appropriate make-up work.

- iii. Barb Dryzal and Gary Vitko are planning to conduct adult education sessions on Sunday mornings, beginning on November 6. Several potential topics were discussed, topics that can help the parents and their children interact in their faith.
- iv. The Advent Day of Reflection is planned for December 11.

d. Parish Family Life

- i. The proof for the *Pray for Families* decal was presented. Father George wants 150 decals ordered to be distributed on the Feast of the Holy Family.
- ii. A second golf outing was held on September 15. It was successful, having more participants than the first outing.
- iii. An afternoon of bowling is planned for Sunday, October 2 at the Richland Lanes.
- iv. Another *Men's Night Out* is being planned for Saturday, October 1 after the 4:00 PM Mass.
- v. Our *Time Out* initiative will meet on October 12 to cut items needed for service projects.
- vi. This year, the *Undercover Project* will be combined with the *Christmas Needs Tree Project*.
- vii. February 4 has been set for the *2017 Celebration of Marriage*.
- viii. Cards are being prepared for the imprisoned and the shut-ins.
- ix. The next parish covered dish is scheduled for Sunday, November 20 after the 10:30 AM Mass.
- x. The Children's Christmas Party is scheduled for December 18 after the 10:30 AM Mass. An Easter Egg Hunt is being planned for April 15, 2017 at the Grove. Because of her busy schedule, Kris Moran has stepped away as the organizer of these two event. Faith Thomas and the Parish Family Life Committee will coordinate these two events.

e. Liturgy

- i. The Birthday of Mary celebration was missed this year. The bulletin announcement for the event was never submitted.
- ii. On Sunday, September 11, the second morning Mass was changed from 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM. The move will remain permanent.
- iii. George Pisula has contacted Chris Babik to get updated information for the Religious Education tab on the parish's web site.

- iv. October is the month of the Most Holy Rosary. Parishioners have been invited to lead the rosary one-half hour before the start of the weekend Masses. All in attendance have been invited to participate.
- v. On Saturday, October 29, Resurrection Parish will host a Diocesan sponsored Morning of Reflection on the Spiritual Works of Mercy. The event will begin at 9:00 AM and end at noon, taking place in Resurrection church and hall. The Liturgy committee will host the gathering with the assistance of the Ladies Auxiliary. The parish needs to provide the hospitality and refreshments.
- vi. The Mass schedule for All Saints is Monday, October 31 – 6:30 PM and Tuesday, November 1 – 8:00 AM and 6:30 PM.
- vii. Plans for All Soul’s Day is a noon Mass at St. Rochus Cemetery and at 6:30 PM Mass of Remembrance for those who have passed over the past 12 months. The Liturgy Committee will check with the Bereavement Committee to ensure that details are handled.
- viii. Book of Remembrance – George will check with Mary Beth to ensure that she is able to update the Excel file started by Melanie last year. This file is used to generate the pages for the book.
- ix. Parishioners will be asked to donate flowers and other vegetation to help decorate the sanctuary during the autumn season.
- x. The Thanksgiving Day Mass will be held at 9:00 AM. Food will be collected for the West End Food Pantry at this Mass. At the end of Mass there will be the distribution of fruit.
- xi. On November 27, the First Sunday of Advent, Liturgical Year A begins. *Workbooks for Lectors, Gospel Readers, and Proclaimers of the Word* and *Keeping the Seasons* have been ordered through the diocese.
- xii. On Saturday, November 12, the diocese is planning a pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Parishes are encouraged to charter a bus and encourage participation. (For the last pilgrimage, Resurrection Parish collaborated with St. Francis Parish to fill their bus.) The schedule is: 11:00 AM - Arrival, Noon – Midday Prayer, 12:45 PM – Lunch, 1:30 PM – Reconciliation Opportunity, 3:00 PM – Mass, and 4:30 PM – Departure. George will check with St. Francis Parish to see if they would like to partner with Resurrection Parish in chartering a bus. If so, George will take charge of making the appropriate arrangements.
- xiii. Father George has asked this committee to compile a listing of parishioners who have the Eucharist taken to them on a routine basis. Others have been asked to inform us of those who might have

this need, but are not being visited. In the past, some parishioners have been overlooked.

- xiv. On Friday, November 11, Resurrection will host a 6:30 PM Mass in honor of our veterans. This year the Mass will be open to the community. George will send announcements to the Catholic Register, the Tribune Democrat, and to key parishioners who have contact with the various veterans' organizations in the area, announcing the event.
  - xv. Bryan Hodos has the memorial bell designated for Bill Zdrevecky. The previous Pastoral Council had voted to present a bell as a token of appreciation to Bill when he retired as the bell ringer for funerals. The final details of this project should be completed by the October Council meeting.
- f. Properties and Maintenance
- i. The *Kneeler Project* is ongoing. Volunteers are meeting on Monday and Tuesday evenings in Resurrection Hall to work on the kneeler rebuild.
  - ii. A proposal was received and presented to the Pastoral Council for repairs to the ramp at the Parish Center. The Council found no issue with the proposal. The Parish Manager was asked to confer with the Finance Council on this matter and then proceed with the repair.
  - iii. Discussions were held concerning the parish parking lots on Chestnut Street and Fourth Avenue. The members felt additional signage may be necessary before any towing occurs. Additionally, members felt that a meeting should be held between a representative of the Parish and potential offending parties such as Ace's.
  - iv. The Parish Center was notified by the gas company (the day of the meeting) that there is a gas leak in the building. The members of the committee will work with the Parish Manager to get the leak repaired immediately.
  - v. A discussion was held concerning the sidewalks on Fourth Avenue and Chestnut Street. The committee agreed that something needs to be done as soon as possible, as the sidewalks continue to deteriorate. However, members wanted to wait until after the sewer project was completed to see if any additional damage would occur and if the contractor was going to fix the curbs as part of the sewer project.
- g. Youth
- i. No report. Also, there has been no movement in appointing a new youth representative. A suggestion was made to have rotating members, but Father George felt that the lack of continuity would

defeat the purpose of the position. Members in the Confirmation class will be reviewed as potential representatives.

h. Cemetery

i. No meeting or report. Tom Elias is the new Council liaison to the Cemetery Committee.

i. Finance

i. No meeting was held. The next meeting is planned for January.

**VI. Comments from the Parishioners:**

- a. It was relayed that comments were received noting the high quality of food served by Resurrection Parish at Ethnic Fest. It was also suggested that when the two serving lines are consolidated into one, it would be beneficial to keep two registers operating.
- b. It was felt that since Johnstown Concert Ballet purchased the former Hornick Hardware building, events held there would add to the issues of non-parishioners using our parking lot. A clarification was made, saying that the building will currently only be used for storage.

**VII. Old Business:**

- a. None

**VIII. Comments from the Parishioners:**

- a. None

**IX. New Business:**

- a. With John Onderko moving to part-time service and with the difficulty in finding another part-time maintenance person, some discussion centered on the parish hiring a cleaning service to fill the void. This idea still needs greater study to see if it is a viable option.

**X. Comments from the Parishioners:**

- a. None

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

- a. Father George had no additional comments.

**XII. Adjournment and Blessing:**

- a. At 8:28 PM the meeting was adjourned. The meeting concluded with the Council reciting the Doxology after which Father George bestowed his blessing.

**Upcoming Pastoral Council Meeting**

\* Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 7:30 PM

**Upcoming Standing Committee Meetings**

\* Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 6:15 PM

Submitted by  
George G. Pisula  
Recording Secretary