

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS CATHOLIC CHURCH

94 North Lincoln Street, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 20, 2017

Members present: Bev Dippel, Kerry Gigot, Mary Jo Jetzer, Lynn Kulow, Matt O'Connor, Ron (Red) Platz, and Father Phil Reifenberg

Members not in attendance: Linda Leibham, Ron Nielsen

Others in attendance: Christopher Donlon, Lynette Fiebrink, Chris Holzmann

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Kerry Gigot.

Prayerful Opening: The meeting began with a prayer by Father Phil.

Review / Approval of Minutes from April Meeting: Meeting minutes from April 4, 2017 were reviewed. Red made a motion to approve the minutes and Lynn seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Finance: (Red Platz reported)

- Red reported that the financial status of our parish is very, very good due to the generosity of our parishioners. If anyone is interested in seeing the annual report, please see Chris in the Parish Office.

Building & Grounds: (Red Platz reported)

- **St. Fridolin** - We are awaiting estimates for various repairs needed at St. Fridolin, including leakage around the steeple, the ceiling in the choir loft, and bathroom updates.
- **St. Thomas Aquinas** - Estimates were received for updates to the chair lift at St. Thomas Aquinas.
- **St. Thomas Aquinas North Cemetery** - We are awaiting insurance estimates after a recent incident at our North Cemetery that caused damage to an old limestone monument.
- **St. Thomas Aquinas Prayer Garden** – A meeting is scheduled for next week Wednesday to continue discussions on this project.

Trustees: (Red Platz reported)

Red reported that Trustees from both St. Thomas Aquinas and St. John the Baptist, along with Father Phil, have met and will continue to meet on a regular basis. Much progress has been made during the past year.

Faith Formation:

Each Council member received a follow-up report created by Lisa Gross; she was a guest at the April 4th Pastoral Council meeting. Highlighted in the report is information she has gathered from a variety of sources relative to potential initiatives to enhance the current Faith Formation program.

Human Concerns / Sunshine Committee: Chris reported that gifts to homebound parishioners were delivered.

Evangelization: (Ron Nielsen not in attendance – no report)

Pastor's Report: Father Phil is happy to be here! Once received, Father Phil will share information from the Archdiocese regarding leadership being sought. He also mentioned he will be on vacation the last two weeks in July; Father John Schreiter will be back to preside at all Masses.

Christian Women: Chris Holzmann reported the ladies will serve lunch tomorrow for a funeral at St. Fridolin.

Young at Heart: Chris Holzmann reported that Bev Verhulst spoke at all Masses this past weekend. She talked about various things this group does and emphasized that the members decide the activities they do. She invited anyone who is interested to consider joining.

Old Business:

S.W.O.T. (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)

Lynn Kulow will summarize the top priorities of the parishioners as a result of the survey. The method of communication will be determined at the next Pastoral Council meeting.

Town Hall Meetings: (Red Platz reported)

Open forum meetings will be held every six months.

Stewardship Talks: In Ron Nielsen's absence, Chris Holzmann reported that a representative from each of our parish committees will speak at weekend Masses one particular weekend each month. Parishioners will be better informed of the purpose and activities of our committees and receive an invitation to get connected with any that may be of interest.

Blessed (Dynamic Catholic) Teaching for First Holy Communion & Reconciliation

Lisa Gross is currently on the Mission Trip and not in attendance to provide an update. Curriculum was used for students who were Confirmed in spring.

Firemen's Parade – Float

Chris Holzmann reported that Weiss Implement from Glenbeulah has donated a trailer for use in the parade.

New Business:

2017-2018 Budget Submitted to Archdiocese (Father Phil)

Pictorial - Chris Holzmann reported that parishioners will be able to schedule appointments to have photos taken; photographers will be here during two weeks at the end of July.

Family / Intergenerational Faith Formation Program (Faith Formation Directors not in attendance)

On Sunday, August 20th, Father Phil will preside over Mass at the Glenbeulah Park at 9:30 AM. Members of both parishes are welcome.

Discernment and New Pastoral Council Positions:

Christopher Donlon and Lynette Fiebrink each talked about why they are considering joining the Pastoral Council of St. Thomas Aquinas. After discussion, they have been chosen to be appointed as members of the Pastoral Council.

Nominations for Officers of Pastoral Council:

After nominations were made and accepted, the 2017-18 Pastoral Council officers are:

Chairperson: Matt O'Connor, **Vice Chairperson:** Lynn Kulow, **Secretary:** Mary Jo Jetzer

Other Business from the floor:

A suggestion was made to consider adding a Sunday evening Mass next summer, given the many visitors to our parish.

Thank You Acknowledgements:

A message of thanks and appreciation was given to Bev Dippel and Linda Leibham for their time and service to our Pastoral Council. They both served two terms that have now expired; those vacancies were filled at tonight's meeting. Kerry Gigot was thanked for serving at the Council Chairperson this past year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

The next scheduled meeting is **Tuesday, August 15, 2017** at 6:30 PM.

Father Phil closed the meeting with a prayer of thanksgiving.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Jetzer