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St. Peter the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

Pastoral Council Mtg Minutes

October 5, 2010 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting started at 7:05 p.m., in Sullivan Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr. Jason Worley, Ginny Abel, June Schabdach, Lew Sherman, Bob Lilly, Anita Gill, Sandy Ballantine, Sandy Gordon, Mary Nelabovige, Steve Browning, Deacon John Martin, Jerry Jennings, and Laura Nisonger.

MEMBER ABSENT: Chuck O'Connor, Patrick Tramma, and Terri Jackson.

MINUTES: Steve Browning moved to approve the minutes from the September meeting, Deacon John Martin seconded, and the council voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Communications:

- No official report.

Development:

- No report.

Education:

- Sandy Ballantine reported that the current enrollment in our education programs is as follows:
- Elementary Ed: 214 (Monday & Tuesday evening) / 19 Home Model
- Youth Ministry: 294
- Adult Ed:

Parent Class Celebrating the Lectionary: 26

Matthew Bible Study: 102

Cherished & Chosen: 8

- Sandy is very grateful for the staff & volunteer catechists who make such a range of educational opportunities available.
- Both the LCD projector and a used laptop were donated. Sandy has inquired as to the status of last year's request for purchase of the projector and two laptops and whether one new laptop could thus be purchased. From educating catechists to programs for youth ministry and adult education, the items will get very frequent use and the current price of laptops makes this much more affordable than in the past. It has been very frustrating for the education committee to keep returning with this request. It is understood that money is needed for many budget items but the feeling of the committee is that educational equipment receives a low priority.
- Kenn DeMoll has asked about the possibility of holding a fundraiser for the Edge and Life Teen programs. The money raised would be used to fund programs such as Appalachia, Right to Life March, etc. (possibly to be held once per quarter).

Evangelization:

- Sandy Gordon reported that the Evangelization Committee meeting scheduled for September 30th was postponed due to inclement weather. The meeting is rescheduled for October 21st.
- Lighthouse Catholic Media continues to be extremely successful at St. Peter's. To date, we've sold nearly 1,500 CDs in eight months. Also, twenty-four families have signed up for the CD of the Month Club. Since St. Peter's receives credit for each CD of the Month subscription we sell, we receive a check every few months based on the number of subscriptions sold (e.g. St. Peter's received a check for \$112.00 in July for subscriptions sold between February and July).
- In addition to CDs, Lighthouse Catholic Media also offers books and booklets to complement their faith raiser program. The Evangelization Committee is looking into this and Ignatius Press's offerings of books and DVDs.
- We are considering hosting an "I'm Dreaming of a Catholic Christmas" Fair in November. We will have CDs, books, and DVDs, for all ages, available for purchase or special order.
- Fr. Jason and the Evangelization Committee are in the process of scheduling an Advent mission to be given by Fr. Terry Cramer. The tentative dates are December 1st and 2nd.

Finance:

- Fr. Jason reported that we are in line with where we were financially last summer.

Liturgy:

- The last Liturgy Committee meeting was held on September 13, 2010.
- A third octave of hand bells has been acquired and the music ministry is trying to get enough people to form an adult hand bell choir.
- The Liturgy Committee is considering holding the Dedication Anniversary Mass on the Sunday of the parish picnic next September.
- Liturgical training weekends will be held for all of the different ministries at St. Peter's.
- The Advent program is going to be held on December 12th.
- Anne Mason is thinking of having the First Reconciliation Service in November instead of February this year.
- The new prayers for the liturgical changes will be instituted during Advent of 2011.

Maintenance:

- Lew Sherman reported that there is a construction project in the Birch Library which is still uncompleted. A structural engineer has looked at a beam in the library and does not feel it has the structural integrity to bear the load. He is recommending installing steel to reinforce the beam. If qualified volunteers cannot assist with this project, we will have to hire a construction company to finish the project.
- Ruth Riley is the head of the landscaping committee and will be holding a meeting to decide which plants need to be replaced because of the damaging winter weather last year.
- Laura Nisonger said that once the Use and Occupancy Permit is obtained, the nursery and the RCIA rooms in the basement of the church will need to be built (drywall, painting, etc.)
- The Flower Committee is concerned as to where they will be placed, once the construction of the rooms in the basement of the church is complete.

Planning:

- No report.

Social Concerns:

- Ginny Abel reported that students at Deer Crossing Elementary School will be hosting a Food Drive and St. Peter's Food Pantry will be the recipient of the donations.
- Carolyn Nolan would like to do an Advent small group study and is considering the topic of immigration in conjunction with the Holy Family's travels during Jesus' infancy.
- Central Maryland Social Justice Committee meets in Emmitsburg and representatives from all of the surrounding parishes attend. They host talks regarding St. Vincent DePaul Society, elder care, health care, and other social concern issues.
- One of the things that came up in the Pulse of the Parish survey was that many parishioners do not understand the concept of social justice. Perhaps we should look at ways to educate our parish regarding social justice.
- Lynn Wells would like to host a "giving tree" during the Advent season to benefit those in the military.
- The 40 Days for Life is going very well right now. There are still slots available for people to stand and pray for the end to abortion at the Toll House Avenue abortion clinic.

OLD BUSINESS

Coffee and Donuts Sunday

- No parish group will be featured at the November Coffee and Donuts Sunday.

Review of Parish Picnic 2010

- Approximately 485 parishioners attended the parish picnic.
- There was leftover chicken, even though less chicken was ordered.
- One positive change this year was the decision to have two serving tables pushed to the one side which allowed for more seating.

- The possibility of having a rain date for the parish picnic was discussed.
Since the picnic is always held on the 2nd Sunday in September, and the fried chicken is ordered weeks in advance of the picnic, it was decided that a rain date is not a feasible option at this time.
- It would be helpful to have more volunteers to help with set up and clean up.

Pulse of the Parish

- Father Jason, Jerry Jennings, Carolyn Nolan, Ginny Abel, Terri Jackson, Bob Lilly, and Amy Uranachek, from Pair Consulting, are involved in the process.
- A total of 475 surveys (10% of the parish) were completed.
- The majority of the responses were from women in the 30-45 age bracket.
- There were many comments and anything that was commented on two or more times were put on lists of strengths and weaknesses.
- Overall, the responses were very positive. The consensus was that St. Peter's is a welcoming parish.
- The next step will be to hold the focus groups, which will be held this weekend.
- The results from the survey, comments from the focus groups which are open to all parishioners, and comments from a randomly selected group of parishioners will be used to obtain a triangulation of data.

Committee Assignments

- The following is a list of committee assignments for FY 2010-2011 for St. Peter's Pastoral Council:
- Chuck O'Connor -- PC President and Planning Committee Chair
- Ginny Abel -- PC Vice President and Social Concerns Committee Chair
- Sandy Gordon -- PC Secretary and Evangelization Committee Chair
- Sandy Ballantine -- Education Committee Chair
- Steve Browning -- Development
- Anita Gill -- Social Concerns and Liturgy (as needed for issues involving Altar Servers)
- Terry Jackson -- Evangelization and Liturgy (as needed in her duties as Sacristan)
- Bob Lilly -- Development and Social Concerns (Elder Care)
- Mary Nelabovige -- to be determined
- June Schabdach -- Liturgy
- Lew Sherman -- Maintenance Committee Chair
- Patrick Tramma -- Evangelization

Planning Meeting November 20th, 2010

- The November pastoral council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2nd.
- The annual pastoral council Planning Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 20th.
- The December 7th meeting is tentative at this point in time.

NEW BUSINESS

Welcome of New Pastoral Council Member

- Fr. Jason announced that he has appointed Mary Nelabovige to the pastoral council. Mary is a pharmacist and is the district manager for all Weis Market

pharmacies in Maryland. She has a Master's degree in philosophy. She has been a youth leader, as well as volunteers in various capacities at St. Peter's. Mary will be deciding soon on which committee of the pastoral council she would like to serve.

Filing Committee Reports Via Email Prior to Parish Council Meetings Each Month

- It was decided that committee reports should be sent to Sandy Gordon the week prior to the pastoral council meeting. At that point, Sandy will disseminate the reports to the council members, along with the minutes from the prior P.C. meeting. The committee reports for the next P.C. meeting will be due to Sandy by October 26.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- The Sounds and Spirits of Germany Wine Fest will be held on Saturday, October 16, 2010 in the Sullivan Room.
- The Christmas in the Country Holiday Festival will be held on November 13, 2010. There will be two shifts for the steam tables. 11:30-2:30 and 2:30-5:30.

PASTOR'S REPORT: No report.

Mary Nelabovige ended the pastoral council meeting with a closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8: 55 p.m.

Minutes respectively submitted by Sandy Gordon.

Parish Mission Statement (rev. 3/05)

We the people of St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Community are called by our Lord Jesus Christ to grow in faith, celebrate hope, and experience His loving presence in our midst. Drawing our life from the Eucharist and guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to follow God's Word by supporting one another, continuing our faith formation, promoting social justice, reaching out in service, and inviting others to share in our journey.

St. Peter the Apostle Church
Phone: 301/898-5111
Fax: 301/898-0465