

Minutes of the St. Maurice Advisory Board Meeting of May, 14th 2019

Attendance: Kathy Perlitz, Dorli Cloutier, Lou Cloutier, Bonnie Benevides, Amie Tillmann, Rich Carpenter, Bill Hebert, Maryann Murpy, Anna Czerowy, Jeff Monroe, Tom Manning, Wendy Burke

Excused: Patty Cinea, Janusz Herasimowicz, Mike Harney, Anthony Girasoli, Sharon Scorso

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. We all joined in with a prayer of the Our Father.
2. Jeff Monroe was the first to report on the Liturgical Commission Leadership Meeting that was held on Marth 18th. All Commission reported a need for new members. Commission members were encouraged to ask parishioners who they felt would be good at their commission to volunteer their time. Jeff mentioned that Father Leon said that he would speak again at Masses to inspire people to volunteer and was going to do that the next week after the March 18th meeting, but he could not recall him doing so. When Father Leon returns from his vacation/retreat that he would ask him to make an announcement regarding needing volunteers.

Jeff spoke of the discussion that was brought up by the Eucharistic Ministers Commission. What qualifies someone to be a Eucharistic Minister? They wanted to know, since they were asked to approach Parishioners too. Father Leon had listed some of the requirements at that meeting. A few Advisory Board members said that normally the acting priest in the past had asked people that he felt qualified for this role.

3. Maryann Murphy of the Pastoral Commission reported that not much had changed from when she last spoke. All was going well with the prayer line & the Ministries of the sick.
4. Dorli Cloutier of the Social Activities reported that the Fair Summer Staff would be taking over soon in her absences & that the workshop is every Wednesday from 9am –12pm in the Parish Center.

Dates that someone will speak at all Masses to promote the events we have coming up for the Fair, Food Donations, Food Deliveries, Etc.

The dates listed are as follows:

- 1) November 3rd & November 10th: Thanksgiving Food Donation for local families in need.
- 2) November 17th: Announce Fair Happenings for the week coming.
- 3) November 23rd & 24th. December 1st & 8th: Christmas Food Donation for local families in need & how the Giving Tree will work.
- 4) December 15th: To speak on sorting & packing of Food, food & gift deliveries.

Dorli noted that she would like to make sure that the week of December 11th that the Parish Center was not used for any big events, due to needing it to pack up gifts.

A discussion followed that the money in funds for the Poor & Needy could be used towards Food Donations that are done throughout the year. All Advisory Board members agreed that this money would qualify for the Poor & Needy and should be used for purpose. Bill Hebert of the Knights of Columbus stated that they had allocated some money for Food too. The Advisory Board discussed the need to provide local support and all agreed that our Parish must continue to back this cause.

5. Amie Tillmann of Faith Formation reported that the last class had ended the last Sunday in April.
6. Rich Carpenter in Patty Cinea's absence had read a report she submitted that the Biblical Commission just finished reading the book of Jeremiah & continuing with the reading of the Old Testament Prophets. Fr. Leon encourages individual reading, individual focal topic work completion for group presentation, and group sharing. However, no one is bound to do homework assignments to be part of this group. We will take a movie break, showing *Mary of Nazareth*, and then continue with more of the prophetic books before Fr. returns.

He also read additional info Patty Cinea submitted in that same report on the Ecumenical Commission & the last joint activity of the Bolton Ecumenical Council was the Outdoor Procession of the Stations of the Cross. Rev. Nicolette Siragusa will be leaving Bolton Congregational Church in June. All four Bolton parishes are feeling the pinch of decrease in parishioner attendance. There has been no functioning choir in both United Methodist and St. George's. The latter parish will lose its organist this summer.

BEC will meet next in October to review and amend its Bylaws, prepare for the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, and sign off sponsorship forms for Scouting.

Rich continued to discuss a Diocesan Meeting that Patty had attended Last week, which was mandatory session for parish priests, school administration/faculty, held regarding Sexual Harassment in the Workplace. (This was not related to the clergy abuse nor creating safe environments for minors). A lawyer gave a 2-hour power point presentation. He discussed both State and Federal laws and forms of sexual harassment. He stressed prevention strategies, communication and documentation. He encouraged writing and posting of a diocesan policies and reporting procedures to reduce liability (I assume in all parish offices) and there will be more to come.

7. Kathy Perlitz reported for Finances in Mike Harney's absence. She stated that they have put a small group together to focus on ways to reduce expenses & increase donations.

8. Lou Cloutier reported on Maintenance for the Parish. He mentioned to reduce cost at the Church and the Parish Center to turn off the Boilers in these two buildings during the summer months. Water Softener issue in the Rectory that needed a designated dry well for discharge, work has been completed. Roof exhaust has been sealed and leak over the stove had been partially fixed. Issue was noticed after a windstorm that the make up fan was leaking through duct. The original installer said he would look at, so hopefully he can figure out what is causing this & determine what needs to be done.

9. Rich Carpenter spoke on behalf of the Annual Catholic Appeal. As of May 10th our parish has 62 pledges, compared to 72 last years. Participation is 15.86% compared to last year that was 18.7%. Dioceses claims we have 395 families in our Parish, all agreed that this number is way to high. 80% of our goal was meet this year compared to 115% last year. Tom Manning added that normally in the next month we should meet our goal, since from his recollection it came in gradually last year.

10. Based on the count of the families the Dioceses claims we have there was an open discussion on this, since all Advisory Board members agreed this number is way off. All agreed we needed to get a better count of families in our parish. A count of Envelopes that are sent out may help in calculating count. Tom Manning said that there are families that give electronically, so that number can be added to count too. Tom added that he would get a count to us at our next board meeting, so we can better evaluate number of members in our parish.

11. Kathy Perlitz spoke on her discussion with Teresa regarding flower envelopes. We are awaiting further information.

12. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm. Next meeting will be June 11th, 2019.

Respectfully submitted by,
Wendy Burke
Secretary of the Liturgical Commission