

Minutes  
OLGH Pastoral Council Meeting  
Sunday February 18, 2018 10:30am

Attendance Present: Acklen Banks, Fr. Michael Barrett, Dave Dorgan, Bob Gallagher, Peter Gray, Aruna Halala, Peg Harloff, Margie Kaczmarek, Carla Kohlschmidt, Richard Krueger, Mary Muza, Penny Potter. Guest Ron Mackiewicz

**1- Prayer** – Opening prayer led by Mary. Adapted from Radical Careering

- Recognition of Bob for handling difficult situation at Mass
- Review of the 1/23/18 special council meeting
  - 1- OLGH engagement , excitement by more people. Maybe we do something like St. Bernadette's bingo night or Fish Fry to show we are alive and vibrant.
  - 2-Get over the Tri-Parish and Fr. Mike what's next and turn the worry around to information about our parish future.
  - 3- Consider forcing migration to sister parishes, maybe as dramatic as closing down a mass a weekend.
  - 4- Increase participation/ discipleship
  - 5-Prepare for the merger
  - 6-Share what's happening at other combined churches.
  - 7-Share ministers between sister parishes- share the talent (e.g. fish fries/choirs/etc.)
  - 8-Stay positive about the changes by having organized events
  - 9-Define and quantify action on one goal.
  - 10-More ministers-address the fear of becoming over committed if engaging in one ministry (pressure to increase participation)
  - 11-Joint activities with sister parishes. Leverage comments from the joint farmer's market. We'd like to do this together again.
  - 12-Increase number of ministers.
  - 13- Increase excitement by having a breakfast after a joint mass.
  - 14- Start a stewardship campaign that focuses on time and talent. Stress why do people feel they are called. Approach This is US, this is your personal call to ministry
  - 15- Focus on Human concerns
  - 16-We are leaders and should be positive about the Tri-Parish consolidation
  - 17-We have new faces engaged and energized about being Lay ministers- we should capitalize on that
  - 18-Our numbers at Mass are larger than last year- celebrate the numbers.
  - 19-We could have another OLGH breakfast
  - 20-We should do something in our neighborhood- outreach
  - 21-Make visitors feel welcomed- stand and recognize visitors, sign up card in pews, 1 on 1 invitations to visitors to join; look around where you sit as council members and approach regulars with invitation to join ministry
  - 22- Have another working together event (with Tri-Parishes) and encourage socialization
- Our Goal/ Rallying Cry/ Thematic Goal: Better together at Our Lady of Good Hope
  - 1- Ministry Education Event. Bob suggested we reach out to a speaker coming in September. Not available earlier. Suggestion was that we request this now since speaker is in demand. Mary suggested a training day for volunteers. Get up and move behind the scenes view of the church such as the usher's room, Fischer Hall, the altar. Find out what happens behind closed doors. Questions for various ministries. Volunteers need to be contacted. Tour idea popular. Open Doors OLGH, hospitality weekend during Lent suggested. Prayer and Worship meeting March 13 at 6pm would try to decide what to have on the tour.
  - 2- Tri Parish Activity – Grass Roots efforts to share (next event/activity)

Inventory and communicate what we've done to celebrate successes so far. Breakfast together

3- Communications- Electronic sign outside so we don't look closed. Clarity of the Fr. Greg/ Fr. Mike transition. There was a meeting Thursday February 22 with Fr. Mike, Fr. Greg, Debbie Hintz St. Catherine's administrator, and School Principal Michelle Paris. Carla, Penny, Ron Mackowitz and Mary composed a letter to request a sit down with the archbishop. Fr. Mike was going to present this at the meeting as the vicar will be at the meeting representing the archbishop. Parish council needs to know if we update the building for sale or future upkeep.

## **2- Formation. Facilitator Carla/ Penny**

- **Vallimar Jansen program review. Video of Vallimar was shown.**

## **3- Action Items and Committee Reports- Keeping Council "In the Know"**

- Formation- Dave/Peg/Margie
- Human Concerns Report- Dave/Peg.
  - 1-Human Concerns meets 2/19/18 at 6pm at St. Catherine's.
  - 2-Bundling announcement is in this week's bulletin. Bob and Dave will work out the logistics of the baskets for collection of donations.
  - 3-Peg has arranged with Urban Ministry (Parish Nursing services) to come in whenever we'd like and do a blood pressure screening. It was agreed this would be done after a mass during Hospitality time. The Urban Ministry nurses will run the first session with OLGH team observing and learning how to run future events. We will do the blood pressure screening this time after the 4pm mass. The space planned for use is the confessional room next to the East Entrance to the church.
- Tri-Parish Grass Roots Activities – Dave
  - 1-Dave reported that \$1000 was raised and covered the costs of the breakfast. Vendors were pleased with the resulting sales and were interested to participate again. The Tri-Parish Human Concerns team agreed it would be a good idea to repeat this activity.
  - 2-The Tri-Parish Human Concerns will focus on homelessness in our communities.
- Treasury/Administration/Finance and Facilities- Ron Mackiewicz- Ron presented a capital expense budget spreadsheet that contained prioritized expenditures for the church facilities. Fischer Hall and an electronic billboard are not included in the priorities but are on the list as "Need prioritization from Pastoral Council." Ron explained that if we want to do Fischer Hall renovation (including ADA compliance) it would take at least \$50,000 and we'd have to pick from something else on the approved list to delete/reduce funding in order to cover the expenses. The same situation exists if we would like to have an electronic billboard in front of church. There are currently no funds for either of the two projects. The council suggested that since Seton has money to contribute to the facilities changes they want, perhaps we could redirect some of the capital budgeting/ special projects be added to next month's agenda.
- Prayer and Worship- Bob/Richard

- 1- Focus is on Lent and Easter season.
  - 2- The Prayer and Worship team will be important players in the Open Doors OLGH event being planned for after Easter. Mary will attend the March Prayer and Worship meeting to work on logistics and content of the Open Doors OLGH.
  - 3- Easter Saturday Vigil: Carla and Dave are taking the lead on the Easter Saturday Vigil post-service gathering in Fischer Hall. The Council sponsors this event and everyone in the congregation is encouraged to bring their favorite wine. The Council (Bob) provides cheese, crackers, fruit, etc. for the gathering.
  - 4- Bob will engage a speaker for a Fall event that will be opened to all members of the Tri-Parishes.
- Stewardship- Mary will send out the Synod Implementation – Deanery Council Meeting questionnaire to the Council with minutes so everyone can see how the survey was answered by her on behalf of the council. We have attended the Stewardship conference last Fall and we are focusing on Hospitality by encouraging all Council members to join the Ushers and Greeters before Masses to meet the members and guests as well as noting how Fr. Mike includes ministry and stewardship in many of his homilies to the congregation.
  - Next meeting Sunday March 18 after 10am mass at Kaczmarek's house. 8734 West Helena St. 414-353-1129 if needed. Lunch, coffee (Irish or otherwise) Bloody Mary's etc. No need to bring anything or to RSVP. Just come.

Closing prayer – from Fr. Mike

Meeting evaluations to Mary by email to [mmuza1@wi.rr.com](mailto:mmuza1@wi.rr.com)