

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 9, 2009

Opening Prayer: Cathy Teague

Members Present: Father Tom Albers, Julia Alsobrook, Phil Baumert, Dave McDonald, Cathy Teague, Jim Thornton, and Steve Wilson

Members Absent: Father Timothy Armbruster, Mary George, Diane Dolak and Ann Tucker,

Guests Present: Jim Newell, and Chuck Koesterer

Additions to the Agenda: 1) Phil Baumert added Parish Cleanup update
2) Father Tom to ask council's opinion for Respect for Life Ministry

Approval of Minutes: Phil Baumert made a motion to accept the October minutes as written, Steve Wilson seconded, and all unanimously approved.

Old Business:

1) *Re-energizing the HOPE program by Jim Newell*

Jim asked the council for ideas on how to revitalize this important program as it has plateaued again. Several ideas were discussed such as offering the sales at times in addition to after Mass, and if purchase by debit or credit cards would increase the sales. Jim said he would discuss these suggestions with the HOPE committee.

2) *Update on recognition of ministry members and other volunteers by Phil Baumert*

Phil said the liturgy committee meets again next week for further discussion on this. He thought, since we are heading into a busy time of year, it might be best to wait until after the first of the year to plan something. Discussion will continue next month.

3) *Parish Cleanup by Phil Baumert*

Phil reported the Boy Scouts and Knights of Columbus are on board to assist with cleaning up the parish grounds which will be Saturday, November 14th starting at 8 a.m. The Altar Society is going to assist with cleaning the Eucharistic vessels in the church.

New Business:

1) *Discuss proposal on changes in by-laws for election of officers and selection of new members.*

Dave distributed copies of the by-laws to members with areas highlighted that may need changes. During discussion on the discernment process several members think the length of the process is too long with meetings from January to May. Phil suggested letting parishioners know what is involved in serving on the council by putting out information of what is expected and the time involved. Dave noted the inconsistency in the present by-laws Sec. 4 (a) Terms of office shall be for one year, and in Sec. 4(d) The election will be following selection of new council members which is every two years. Since several council members are absent, Julia thought it would be best to give by-laws to them and for everyone to review the changes needed before next month's meeting.

Ministry Reports:

- **Youth:** No report
- **Activities:** The Memorial Service will be November 14th with Steve Smith, Chaplain at Liberty Hospital, speaking on the grief process.
- **Groups:** Steve Wilson reported that Families of Faith continue to be a very active ministry.
- **Liturgy:** Cathy Teague reported that there are 16 to 18 new Eucharistic Ministers that have completed training. We may have to cut servers at Mass to two since we are short on servers. The children's choir number 23 and is growing. Chuck Koesterer is our new acolyte so we will see him serving at Mass and assisting the priests. Phil Baumert said the adult choir Christmas program on December 18th will be an old English ceremony, Greenery, Bells, and Candles. He also said the children's choir will be going to Ashton Court caroling.
- **Education:** Julia Alsobrook reported the School Board recently had a ribbon cutting for Project Fit. The School Auction totals were not quite what they had hoped, but they are hoping for a successful Bazaar on December 7th. The school sound system has been updated. Two-thirds of the speaker system is done, and one-third is to be completed in next year's budget. The school website is being updated. Religious Ed Fall Gathering was attended by about 125. The kids helped with the food drive. The soup supper will support Engineers Without Borders. Mom's Bible Study is to study Mary while the children attend Religious Ed.

Fund Raising: No report

Pastor's Comments: by Father Tom

Father Tom asked the council's opinion on requests from Respect for Life Ministry of ways to bring awareness to Pro-Life in January, the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. They proposed the following: 1) Banner in the narthex; 2) Permanent sign on driveway street sign; and 3) Place hundreds of white crosses on lawn where old ball field was. The council thought the banner in the narthex would be okay, but would want to see the permanent sign for approval. After considerable discussion, several council members agreed with Father Tom that, while the crosses are used at other parishes, we are not in favor of them.

Closing Prayer: Cathy Teague

The next meeting will be Monday, December 14th at 7 p.m.
Opening and closing prayer will be by Ann Tucker.

December Agenda Items:

- Update on recognition of ministry members and other volunteers—Phil Baumert
- Discuss proposal on change in by-laws for election of officers.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dorothy Haynes, Recording Secretary