

## ST. NICHOLAS PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

March 28, 2017

### Minutes

**Present:** Kevin Axe, Damian Barta, Sheila Hebein, Deb Evans, Cynthia Judge and Fr. Joe Tito

**Absent:** Derrick Blakley, Betsy Quinn and Dan Vicencio

**Opening Prayer** – Fr. Joe offered the opening prayer.

**Minutes** – The minutes of the February 28, 2017 meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Kevin A and seconded by Damian B. They were unanimously approved.

**Parish Updates** – Fr. Tito gave the Parish Updates:

**Music Director Position** – The person the position was offered to was unable to accept because of health issues. We now have several new candidates and the search committee is in the process of making phone contact and scheduling interviews. It is hoped that the new candidate will be in place no later than July 1, 2017. We do have 2 other musicians who help out with the 4:30 Mass.

**Liturgy** – Alex (parish staff member) provides much of the clerical help. Deb Winarski meets with those who write Prayers of the Faithful and organizes that portion. It is hoped that Lynn Mapes-Riordan will have more time to chair this committee after she finishes her doctorate studies in a few months and then Chris Murphy will be able to move on to other ministries. This committee meets 3 or 4 times a year.

**Parish Announcement Policies** – Fr. Joe discussed this with staff and they just had a few suggestions. Sheila will send an electronic version of this policy and Fr. Joe will insert the staff suggestions. We can finalize this policy at the next PPC meeting.

**Update on PPC Membership:** Fr. Joe has received several written self-nomination forms from folks interested in serving on the PPC. He will have the completed nomination forms scanned and will send them to PPC members and staff.

**Second Collections** – some changes will be made regarding second collections. There was a discussion about whether there could be a second collection for youth. It might be good to have Betsy speak at all the Masses and perhaps have youth do the collection if this is implemented. There are already second collections for Pope John XXIII. PPC thought this was a good idea.

**Youth Ministry-** While the pumpkin patch raised over a thousand dollars, it was labor intensive and we will probably not do that again. The Pancake breakfast didn't reach its goal this year. Part of the problem was that there were other events in the parish that weekend which possibly had a negative impact. It would be good to coordinate these activities with the parish calendar to avoid such conflicts.

Damian reported that we are in the early stages of developing a job description for a Director of Youth Ministry for the Evanston/Skokie communities. The parishes involved at this time

are Sts. Nicholas, Mary, Athanasius, Joan of Arc and Peter. This dialogue is ongoing.

There will be a series of meetings at St. Nicholas with parents and youth during the coming weeks. One of the questions we need to answer is, "What outcomes do we want?" A social action component should be part of the plan.

**Winter Parish Party** – The committee that worked on the Winter Parish Party has decided to keep the event in February next year. It will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2018 – the Saturday before Ash Wednesday.

**The Finance Report** - This report was given after the 9 am Mass on Sunday, March 26th in Oldershaw Hall. About 20 people attended. The purpose was to report on how we are doing 8 months into the fiscal year. We are behind the budget amount by approximately \$30,000. It is hoped that by giving this report now, we won't need to do special appeals in June. Tom Bertsche is doing a great job as chair of the Finance Committee - he has been chair for 7 years.

**Military Families** – Sheila has been in regular contact with Russ Hopkins and she is planning to see if she can hook him up with another parishioner who is in the National Guard. It was felt that it was important for this ministry if it is developed to involve more than St. Nicholas parish – Russ should contact all churches in the area.

**Joint Potluck** – Sheila was contacted by the chair of St. Mary's PPC and he has contacted other parishes in the area to ascertain their interest in a joint Potluck dinner. All the parishes are interested and St. Mary's will host it. We hope to have a couple of alternate dates in the next few days.

**United Power** – Damian B gave a report on a recent meeting of United Power that was held at St. Nicholas. The group is pursuing a Diversion Center at St. Francis Hospital. The big issue is how will it be funded. Good contacts have been made at St. Francis.

**St. Nick's List** – Damian distributed a summary written by Barb Mott on the discontinuation of St. Nick's List. The history and work of this group was described and it was felt that those involved in this important work should be thanked. Sheila will talk to Jean O'Keefe about this – Jean was the chair of St. Nick's List for several years.

**Morning Mass** – Cynthia mentioned that some parishes have an evening Mass once a week and no morning Mass on that day. Timing of the morning Mass was also discussed.

**Welcoming at St. Nick's** – Several years ago we used to have a welcoming program a couple of times a year – this involved an Open House and a tour of the campus.

**Closing Prayer** – Everyone recited the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.