

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF

June 7, 2011

Present at the meeting**

Father Vern Decoteau, pastor
Debbie Fish, chair
Paula Moran, co-chair
Francesca Forrest, secretary
Deacon Bill Brawner, deacon
Ray Fontaine, communications
Courtney Crosby, communications
Therese Rakouskas, marriage enrichment (Teams of Our Lady)
John Rakouskas, marriage enrichment (Teams of Our Lady)
Carla Dell'Olio, vocations
Stan Wyman, finance committee
Carolyn Groves, director, religious education
Donna Grady, music ministry
Terese Girard-Majka (CVS)

***This list represents those who signed the attendance sheet or those whom the secretary recalls being present. Minutes can be corrected to include others who were in attendance.*

I. Meeting called to order around 7:30

2. Prayer – Father Vern

3. Previous minutes and current agenda accepted; calendar reviewed

4. Commission Reports

A. Communications

-- The Communications Commission presented on the procedures for nominations for Pastoral Council (covered under New Business)

B. Family Life

-- (Fr. Vern reported) On June 25, the Family Life Commission will show Toy Story 3 on the church lawn at 7:30 PM.

C. Hospitality

-- (Fr. Vern reported) The Hospitality Commission provided refreshments for Confirmation.

D. Marriage Enrichment

-- Another couple has joined the third Team of Our Lady, and another couple intends to join. That will make the third team complete, and the parish will have three full teams.

E. Spiritual Life

-- Meeting with Religious Education about evangelization. Two possible books for the purpose are *Rediscovering Catholicism* and *Theology on Tap*.

F. Vocations

- Seminarians luncheon with the Knights of Columbus benefited from the generosity of the CEO of Big Y Foods, Mr. D'Amour, and from the efforts of Kevin Kervick, Fr. Vern, and the Knights.
- \$1,128 was raised for the seminarian fund; \$225 worth of gift cards were donated, and \$500 was given to Peter Naranjo.
- There were approximately 74 guests, plus the seminarians, for a total of 85 attendees
- Diocesan press was present.
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5. Old Business

A. Groups using outside the church for fundraising, etc. (We've arranged about interior space, but what about outside?)

- Should it be only for parish organizations or religious organizations?
- Recommendation from Fr. Vern: limit overall canvassing to just three activities total, inside and out.

6. New Business

A. Elections at September meeting for chair, co-chair, and secretary of the council.

- We didn't discuss this at any length, except in the context of the procedure for nominating pastoral council members, below.

B. Procedure for nominations for pastoral council members

- 1 week to tabulate, 2 weeks to get information back to commissions. During this time, commissions decide on chairs, co-chairs
- November: present names of new chairs (At November meeting, have commissioning Mass)
- December: New chairs take over
- The long process means we will need two commissioning Masses: one for volunteers for the religious ed program and other parish ministries (on the Sunday before the Belchertown Fair weekend—that weekend is September 22-25), and one for Pastoral Council (in November)

C. CVS Pharmacy Flu Clinic

- Terese Girard-Majka from CVS Pharmacy proposed setting up an immunization clinic on a weekend sometime from late October through early November
- Want to immunize 18-to-65-year-olds
- It would not be free, but if 25 or more people are interested, then the price could come down some \$3–\$4 from the full price of \$29.99.
- The council decided this would be a fine idea. The CVS pharmacy staff could have the use of the Tovet room.
- We decided on the weekend of October 15–16. (Saturday Oct 15, 3–5 pm; Sunday Oct 16, 9–12 pm)

D. Wrap-up Report on Generations of Faith

- This year's program got good evaluations
- Next year will be the New Testament
- The design team had a retreat on "Who do you say I am?"

7. Closing Remarks and Prayer

- Parish website is celebrating its 12th anniversary. It gets 1,000 visitors a month. The bulletin and confirmation forms are the most downloaded items. The parish website has 65 fans on Facebook.
- The Knights of Columbus are hosting a living rosary on June 30 at 7 pm.
- Stan Wyman is still looking for a chairman for both the tag sale and the finance committee.

The next meeting will be on September 6, 2011.