

Minutes of October 20, 2008

7:30 p.m.

Mary Fran Dolan, Mike Burton, Kathy Heublein, Erin Maiorca, Marilyn Jansen, Dana Hayes, Char Sparrow, Jim Lacivita,

Fr. Tom Hickey

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mike Burton

- Mike asked for approval of the screening committee's recommendations for new council members(list of recommendations had been sent via email prior to meeting)
- The council moved to affirm consensus of the recommendation
Mike announced the 7 new members have been invited to join the council at 8:00 p.m.
Anne Schank(3 year), Art Olivera(3 year), Kevin Shaughnessy(2 year), Robert Hicks(2 year),
Kevin Baudhuin(3 year), Larry Ball(3 year), Bill Lynch(3 year)
 - We are excited about the new council moving forward.
 - The quality and number of applicants was excellent.
 - Candidates who were not recommended for the council will be thanked for their interest and will be invited to join a ministry or help the parish in another capacity.

Discussion followed about process of the Screening Committee:

- Time became a factor for process on our first appointment of members.
- We will follow our directional by laws more closely for the February screening committee
- There will be at least more than 3 members.
- Thought will be given to interview process.
- We will gather the thoughts of the new members on how the process felt for them and what they liked and did not like.
- Mary Fran stated for the record "that the way did the process was sped up this first time not become precedent setting".
- Mike asked that a committee (outgoing members of June'09) review concerns set forward and develop revised procedures before the December meeting.

Marilyn suggested that if we are calling a December meeting (which is not the norm for council) we will get the date on the calendar as soon as possible.

Dana and Kathy explained the rotation list for members of council (2 year term versus three year term) and the reasoning for it. (See handout attached)

- Moved to consensus to adapt the rotation list.

Discussion began about appointment of 5 Community Liaisons

- By laws state that the officers appoint community liaisons
- Kathy led discussion about the temporary appointed community liaisons from Ministry Faire weekend and the results of our memo of liaison appointment preference
- Most members were happy with the appointments they had received with minor changes and additions: Mary Fran and Jim will lead Parish Life, Kathy-Liturgy and Worship, Marilyn-Human Concerns, Char-Education-School Age, Dana-Education-Adult.
- It was decided by consensus that first year on the council would be to "intern" with a Community Liaison, second year to lead a Community, and third year to lead to mentor a Community.
- The Finance Liaison will be appointed at a later time.

At 8:00 the new members were invited in and welcomed to the council, and the business meeting began.

- Everyone introduced themselves.
- Mary Fran offered an opening prayer.

- Mike reminded members meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and try to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.
- Minutes of the September Council meeting were approved by consensus.
- Kathy will put minutes on the web. (They have been submitted 10/15 and Natalie will get them added)

Mike explained our Action Item list.

- Discussion took place on what the councils focus has been to this point this year.
- Bringing on new members
- Ministry Faire Weekend
- Power Point presentation to Ministries and introduction of Community Purpose

Action Items

- Fr. Hickey and Mike encouraged all members of the Council to attend CHRP the weekend of Nov. 8th and 9th.

Discussion took place on definition of Consensus as it applies to the council.

- It was decided Consensus is a general agreement of judgment arrived at by most of those concerned.
- It is an agreement to cooperate and to accept commitment
- It is not "majority rules".
- Does not matter what "side you are on", you support the idea and move it forward.
- It is a way to establish common values-if the council is divided; we cannot and should not move to a decision as yet.
- It is an action that leaves room for compromise.
- It encourages flexibility.
- It holds no "veto" power-members must work to a solution.

Erin discussed the Ministry Faire Weekend. The new location was well received.

- There was good attendance.
- 12 Ministries responded with the number of volunteers who signed up (68 total).
- The Ministry signs that were printed are available to reuse.
- Erin has the feedback notes and will share that with the chairs for next year.

Marilyn discussed the Website.

- There has not been much feedback or insight.
- Email blasts need to be created and should be ready in 6-8 weeks-this action is in our court right now.
- In Natalie's maternity absence, Megan Beanblossom will be in charge of the Web.
- The on-line donation piece is not up yet. Natalie will complete.

Kathy discussed the Community Liaison appointments and rotation.

- We have decided the name of the community leader will be called Community Liaison.
- The role of the Community Liaison is to Initiate, facilitate, and communicate,
- 1st year members will intern and team with a Community Liaison.
- 2nd year members will act as a Liaison.
- 3rd year members will act as a liaison if needed, or as a mentor.
- Moved to consensus on appointments of Community Liaisons.
 - Mary Fran and Jim-Parish Life
 - Kathy-Liturgy and Worship
 - Marilyn-Human Concerns
 - Char-Education-School Age
 - Dana-Education-Adult
 - Finance Liaison to be appointed at later date.

Mike asked new members to think about what Community they would like to work with and give three choices at the next meeting.

Mike discussed the Annual Report. (See attachment)

- It was noted that comparing 2-3 years gets complicated, so for our purposes we are looking at the previous year.
- Fr. Hickey was given praise for the clarity, documentation and reader friendliness of the report.
- Fr. Hickey noted that Cranes ranked OLPH 7th in the diocese out of 350 parishes financially.
- Mike noted that only 10% of the Sunday offertory collection is given to the Archdiocese.
- Our Parish is a \$9 million dollar operation, not including Men's Club, Women's Club and Needy Family Monies.
- It was stated by Fr. Hickey that we must remember we (Parish Council) are not the finance committee-we do not make decisions on finances.
- Fr. asked that for the Annual Fund donations we try to increase our donation amount this year in order to meet increased parish costs.

Father Hickey offered Pastoral Update Information.

- Thank you to the newest members of the council.
- It is an exciting time to be on the council-the transformation period is important to the success of the council.
- Church law says 2 things-you must have a Parish Council and you must have a Finance Council.
- The Parish Council members are primarily the direction setters of the parish. The pastor will not oppose their reasonable recommendations.
- It is the Parish Council Members charge as leaders of the laity to make sure we work hand in hand to be parish that Christ calls us to be.
- Parish Council should set a vision-recommend how we as a parish reach that vision-chart the course.
- Parish Council should be a barometer of parish life...what are you hearing?
- We have the possibility to go from a "good parish" to a "great parish".
- The Council should find our own voice to empower people.
- Father wants to hear honest concern of members.
- Consensus is trust-it involves saying our truth with love.
- Next month new members will be incorporated into the charges for communities.
- Let the old members know what we can do to help the new members get on board. Learn as much as you can about the parish.

Fr. talked about the economy.

- He asked how can we be attuned as possible and stay right with our people in crisis.
- We as a parish should help people in uncertain times who are fearful to be people of faith.
- Fr. has stopped and put on hold the progress of 3 initiatives that were to begin in order to live a bit leaner in these days.
- Networking is important now more than ever.
- We need to keep our children at our school even if times are tough for families.
- In Stewardship, the money will take care of itself if we are hearing and answering the needs of the people.
- Erin mentioned that the business network group-3 times the amount of unemployed people right now.

In the interest of time, Mike decided to save breakout sessions for next month.

Consensus was reached on changing our meeting date from November 17(3rd Monday) to November 10(second Monday) for this month only as Mike will be out of town.

Mike asked that new members think about three communities you might want to partner with a liaison for the remainder of the year.

Mike will forward the Ministries assigned to specific Communities list to all new members asap.

Kathy will call Laura to set new date and place for Nov. 10th meeting.

Nov. 10 meeting Char will offer the opening prayer.

Nov. 10 closing prayer will be offered by: Kevin B.

The closing prayer was offered by Erin.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Heublein

Attachments: Annual Report
Rotation list
Ministry Assignments to Communities
Roster of Members