

Sheboygan North Catholic Parishes
Pastoral Council Meeting in Dominican Hall
Minutes 9-23-19

Present: Father Matthew Widder, Fr. Norberto Sandoval, Vern Baus, Jeanne Bitkers, Tom Clarke, Mary Dalhaimer, Laura Graney, Mary Greenway, Steve Heun, Don Holmes, Michele Konrad, Kym Leibham, Kate Nienhuis, Mary Petrie, Chris Roenitz, Anne Skowlund, Oscar Valdez, Bea Van Geffen

Excused: Brad Bulkow, Anna DeSantos, Tom Dinolfo, Rosa Flores, Joe Leonhard, and Steve Scharrer

Chair Michele Konrad called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Opening Prayer: Oscar Valdez

Mission Statement:

Council members read the Mission Statement out loud.

Consent Agenda:

The minutes from August 26, 2019, along with the September 2019 SNCP Committee Reports were accepted. At the October 2019 SNCP Pastoral Council Meeting, the liaisons for Evangelization and Seton School Board will give a two minute verbal report about their respective committees. This assignment will rotate among other liaisons throughout the remainder of the 2019-20 fiscal year. The financial reports from SD, HNJ and SC have been circulated, but follow up with SC Council members needs to occur to ensure that all members receive copies of the financial reports.

Pastor/Associate Pastor Reports:

Fr. Matthew mentioned that Anna Stankewitz, an ECHO student from Notre Dame, has started her first year (of a two year assignment) with us. The Tower Academy (next to SC) has not renewed their lease, and there is not a new buyer. The SC Finance Council has voted to tear down this building, and redo the parking lot, including a few handicapped spots. A few Council

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members suggested that the SC Finance Council consider auctioning off a few items from the building, such as "buying a brick" as a memento. The Capital Campaign for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is looking for a few pilot projects in 2020. Fall Priest Day was held last week. The Men's and Women's Bible Study programs will "kick off" the new year on Wednesday.

Fr. Norbie mentioned that during this first year of his new assignment with our Sheboygan North Catholic Parishes, he will not make any changes within our Hispanic Ministry. He would like to offer suggestions on how to improve upon what we already have in place. There is a need for the healing process, as the Hispanic community has been going through a rough time, such as having four different choirs. We need to look at how to communicate better. Planning is in process for Our Lady of Guadalupe and Christmas celebrations.

Old Business:

1) Pastoral Council Officers 2019-20

Michele Konrad, Chairperson
Steve Heun, Vice Chairperson
Laura Graney, Secretary.

2) Pastoral Council Membership Rosters

Laura circulated a "tentative" 2019-20 SNCP Membership Roster, that included email addresses and phone numbers of Council members. She also added the liaison positions that were selected at last month's Council meeting.

Steve Heun introduced a newly developed SNCP Membership Roster that lists each "at large" Council member by parish affiliation, and length of term. The terms presently listed are just examples, they are not confirmed. Tonight, each "at large" Council member will be asked to sit with other Council members from their parish, and fill in the membership roster according to preferred length of term. Steve will take this "tentative" information and update our SNCP Membership Roster.

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He will present this information next month to Council members and seek ratification of this new Membership Roster.

Jeanne Bitkers was introduced as a new trustee at SD, and will therefore no longer be an "at large" Council member.

Break from 7:05 PM to 7:20 PM. Council members enjoyed ice cream, while working on their assignment - "At large" members from each parish were asked to meet with other Council members from their parish, to fill in the new Membership Roster developed by Steve Heun. The new Membership Roster will identify each "At Large" Council Member by parish affiliation along with length of term.

3) Pastoral Council 2019-20 Calendar and Prayer before-after meetings

Laura circulated a form that combines the 2019-20 calendar with the before-after prayer leaders at each meeting. Presently, all slots have been filled in, with the exception of "Opening Prayer" on June 22, 2020.

4) Committee liaison assignments

There are presently five open liaison positions - Christian Faith Formation, Deanery Representative - SC, Human Concerns - HNJ, Human Concerns - SC, and Prayer and Worship - SC. Fr. Matthew noted that it probably was not critical, that SC did not have a liaison appointed for the Prayer and Worship Committee, as HNJ and SC usually have joint meetings and one liaison between the two should suffice. Joe Leonhard is the liaison for the Prayer and Worship Committee at HNJ. A question was raised pertaining to the expected duties of a Deanery Rep.? Council members presently serving in this capacity fielded the question. Next Deanery meeting is October 12, 2019.

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*Note: At the end of this meeting, Don Holmes came forward and volunteered to serve as liaison for Christian Faith Formation. Thus, there are now four open liaison positions.

5) SNCP Pastoral Council Goals

The goals from 2018-19 were reviewed. Council members were asked to break into workgroups based on area of interest - a) Refugee/Immigrant Outreach, b) Sacraments or c) Welcoming. This task lasted approximately 30 minutes. Upon completion, one representative from each group was asked to update fellow Council members regarding accomplishments/further recommended action steps.

Fr. Matthew mentioned that this past Tuesday was Fall Priest Day. The theme was "2020 and Beyond." The Catholic Leadership Institute will be offering the opportunity to implement three surveys: a) Priest Placement, b) Advent - administered to approximately 7% of parishioners, and c) Lent - administered to all parishioners. Hopefully information garnered from these three surveys can be utilized by the Council, as we look at the future direction that our Council needs to take.

At this point, our three parishes are taking efforts to be more collaborative, but we are not "one." The Council needs to have a bigger vision. What does it take to be "one?" In three to five years, we will probably become one parish (with three sites). How can we make sure that we are looking ahead? Maybe the topic for next month's "Circle Time" should be the concept of three parishes becoming "one." Possible questions include: a) What worries you the most about three parishes becoming one? b) What excites you the most? And c) Other questions?

6) October All Committee Meeting - Committee Chairs and Pastoral Council members. Main goal is improved communication. Date for meeting: Postponed until November 25, 2019.

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7) Coming Events:

- a) Fund raiser for the Felde Family - October 20, 2019. Raffle tickets are available (\$5 each or 5/\$20). See Rosa Flores, for more information on this event and/or purchase tickets.
- b) Advent by Candlelight - Tuesday, December 3, 2019.
- c) Evening of Service - Creating Care Bundles - Thursday, September 26, 2019. Openings are still available for volunteers to help out the night of this event. See Laura for more information.

Next Meeting: October 28, 2019 at SC - Dominican Hall

Reports for the Consent Agenda are due by October 15, 2019. Please send to laura9326@charter.net.

Closing Prayer: Don Holmes led us in a closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Graney, recording secretary