



Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Pastoral Council
Meeting Notes: January 26, 2016 - APPROVED

Present:

Staff

Fr. Paul English, Fr. Morgan Rice, D. Walker, Carol Wilke

Members

Janet Archibald, Luisa Baars, Brendan Cole, Vicky Critchley, Michele Doherty, Maryfran Fettinger, Mike Messenger, John Miller, Peter Nowak, Molly Ramich, Dan Schum, Patty Sheridan, Rick Walther, Colleen White

PERFECT ATTENDANCE!

Finance Council

Andrew Williams

Opening Prayer

P. Nowak opened the meeting with prayer and reflection.

Mission/Vision Statement

Together, council members recited the SKT Mission and Vision Statements.

Open Forum

Questions/Feedback on St. Salome's

Concern was raised about a closing ceremony (it was noted that the final Mass was previously celebrated so the final ceremony will not be a Mass). Fr. Paul assured the council that a suitable ceremony will be planned at the appropriate time.

Comments were heard by many council members that "closure is good"

Town Hall Meeting

The next parish town hall meeting is February 20, 10:00 at Newcomb Friendship Center. The PC executive committee will create a PowerPoint presentation including updates on parish statistics and circulate to members for comment. All are encouraged to attend.

Prior Meeting Minutes

Consensus was reached to approve the December 15, 2015 Meeting Minutes.

Pastor and Vicar Reports

- Fr. Rice shared comments:
 - Fr has been attending Basilian meetings in Toronto and will continue to do so, being away from SKT for about one week every month.
 - Fr. reported that Fr. Norm is recovering from pneumonia at the Basilian house in Toronto.
 - Fr. is participating in the parish bicycle pilgrimage to St. Kateri Shrine in Fonda, NY beginning Memorial Day weekend, along with (at the present time) about 19 parishioners. The event will begin with a ceremonial send-off at SKT and there will be a ceremony at the shrine. Planning is ongoing and all are welcome to join (maximum of 30 riders).
- Fr. Paul shared comments:
 - The parish Vision & Mission is integral to all we do and everyone needs to be conscious of this basis at every meeting and other activity.



- The areas of competence we need to develop are:

1. Evangelization
2. Faith Formation
3. Eucharist/Sacraments
4. Service

Fr. is working on a visual demonstrating who we serve (by age group), what we currently have to offer for each age group and what we need to improve upon. It seems we serve the young and the elderly well but there is less we offer for young adults through middle age. He confirmed that what is being done is done well by dedicated people. The 19-40 age group needs more to connect. Fr. asked members to contemplate and offer suggestions - remembering that we must not lose anything we are now doing. Discussion followed with several suggestions offered, including (a) rebranding ministries and programs we currently offer - gear them toward this age group with adjusted activities, (b) “deconstruction of scripture” - take old scripture readings and make them relevant for this age group in our present time.

Welcome Centers Revisited - The “New” Evangelization

P. Sheridan and MF Fettinger met with the Evangelization Committee after the last PC meeting. Nothing new about the centers was learned, but the take-a-way is that the committee has invested significant time and energy in this project and just wants to know if they should continue or not. Any update in estimates would take great effort and the committee wants to know if there is support from the parish before undertaking that effort. It was stressed that the concept of Welcome Centers clearly ties in with our Vision and Mission.

It was recommended that a “pre-phase I” be undertaken - ask the Evangelization Committee to move forward with preparing literature and plans to set up a temporary suitable location at each site and ask the Pastor and Finance Council to consider approving funds for moving forward at some level in the next budget.

C. Wilke described the activities underway to freshen up the church entrances - this involves painting, carpet, tiles, etc. When done, these will be areas for parish communications - not “random” items (taped or tacked to walls for example) but a clean and more professional look and use. Welcome Centers would be great to tie in with this project, but the “freshening” is moving forward.

A. Williams advised the council that the FC is developing an “expenditure priority scale” and if this project falls low on the priority scale, there may not be room in the next budget for it. Discussion regarding looking for alternative funding followed, confirming that the parish needs to also consider the non-financial mission of SKT. Fr. Paul reiterated that he takes recommendations from both parish council and finance council under consideration but he makes the decision to move forward or not.

Consensus was reached to recommend to the Pastor to move forward with the Welcome Centers in some concrete manner.

Finance Council Report

December 31, 2015 Revenue & Expense Statements and Balance Sheet Summaries for the Parish and School were circulated to council members prior to the meeting.

A. Williams commented at the meeting:

- Sacrificial Giving Campaign is in development, targeting a March 1 roll-out. The parish probably



- needs an 8% increase to cover operating expenses and ongoing building and property improvements.
- Christmas offertory was about 8% off from 2014. The fact that Christmas 2016 falls on a Sunday will need to be considered in next year's budget.
 - The DOR provides guidelines and policies for all parishes. FC is further defining the approval process for various thresholds of spending for SKT.
 - The Buildings and Grounds standing subcommittee of FC, led by Jason Messenger, assists in maintaining and developing appropriate facilities for the mission of the parish including assessment of conditions, maintenance plans, repair and construction and safety issues. New members are needed.
 - Planned Giving Program - surveys will be done soon as the first step.
 - FC will present at the town hall meeting on February 20.

Ministry Reports

Communications, Evangelization Committee, Faith Formation/Youth Ministry, Liturgy Committee and Music Ministry reports were circulated to members prior to the meeting and are available on the parish website.

The council extends a special THANK YOU to Kevin & Karin Spears and Donna Walker for their work on the CMA campaign this year.

Homework Reports - Eyes & Ears

- It was noted that there are many upcoming events offered at SKT.
- Holiday deliveries of donations were well attended and ran well.
- The youth retreat went very well and was a great experience for youth and facilitators.
- Kudos to Donna Moll for her work in preparing the holiday baskets and gifts - it was a great experience for the volunteers.
- Medical Ethics Faith Formation event - Fr. Paul's talk was very impactful and his personal story touched those who could identify and perhaps allowed those in attendance to help others with similar struggles.
- Although great improvements in the programs were noted, it is perceived that Faith Formation classes need more time for learning.
- The fundraising "guest bartender" event at I-Square was well attended and a great opportunity for parishioners to socialize.

Next Year: Time to Discern

M. Messenger and D. Schum terms on pastoral council end in June 2016. The council will need at least 2 new members on the executive committee. All were asked to reflect and discern their role for the next fiscal pastoral council year.

Closing Prayer

P. Nowak led the Council in a closing prayer.

The next council meeting will be February 23, 2016.