

**Meeting Minutes**  
**St. John Fisher Parish Council**  
**Jan. 10, 2009**

Members present:

Fr. Jerry	Juli Kubicki
Evan Barlage	Dairdre McGlothlin
Laura Borroni-Bird	Ann Moran
Dick Brennan	Joe Pauwels
Jerry Bishop	Kirsti Reeve
Dawy Gonzalez-Ruiz	Greg Schultz
Scott Kehrer	

Council members gathered in the Rochester Room for a snack and socializing.

**1. Opening**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Dairdre McGlothlin with the opening prayer led by Dawy Gonzalez-Ruiz. Dairdre asked for revisions to the minutes of the November 15, 2009 meeting. There were none and the minutes stood as written.

Scott Kehrer asked if the May meeting (May 30, 2010) would be moved because it occurs during Memorial Day weekend. At the meeting, no one had a calendar to check the date of Memorial Day, but as it does fall in the same weekend as the May meeting a change of date will be considered.

**2. Focus Items for Discernment**

**Identifying Charisms**

Kirsti Reeve described the contents and use of the kit obtained by Fr. Jerry for the “Called and Gifted Discernment Process”. The topic was presented by Sherry Weddell at the PAV October Meeting on October 26, 2009.

Briefly, the kit contains CDs, a facilitator’s guide, and copies of the booklets for participants. Kirsti discussed several methods for using the kit in the process of discerning charisms. In all methods, the process has two parts; initial discernment and discernment in depth. Each part consists of several 2.5 hour sessions for both large and small groups. In the large groups participants listen to the CDs. Discussion follows in the small groups. Upon completion of the first part, participants take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory. For the second part (discernment in depth) participants may explore their charisms on their own or they may have an individual interview with a trained facilitator to discern their particular charisms. Several small group sessions on discernment in depth follow to complete the process. There is also an alternative option of using a workbook to complete the second part.

MaryAnn Weller is in the process of contacting Austin Eli, Program Coordinator, at the Catherine of Siena Institute to clarify what initial preparations for instituting the *Called and Gifted Discernment Process*. She reported that the Institute offers a mission by the co-director, Fr. Michael Fones, which may be a good way to introduce the program to the community.

Fr. Jerry concluded that the *Called and Gifted Discernment Process* is an in depth program that people can do on their own or with the help of a facilitator. In keeping with the archdiocesan mandate of incorporating stewardship, evangelization, and/or charisms into parish programs, we may find that the *Called and Gifted Discernment Process* may help us clarify our *Mission, Vision and Values* with feedback from the *Year of Renewal*.

The ensuing discussion included the following:

- Scott asked if any other parish in the vicariate is looking at carrying out the *Called and Gifted Discernment Process*. Joe will pose the question at the next PAV meeting.
- Fr. Jerry suggested that if another parish in close proximity to us has carried out the process, we could discuss it with them in order to see if it will fulfill anything that came from the YOR.
- Joe said he believes that if we do it, we must ‘do it all the way’ but that as a council, we must be wary of having the mindset that the YOR will indeed lead us to the *Called and Gifted Discernment Process*.
- Fr. Jerry added that we must become aware of how the YOR and the *Called and Gifted Discernment Process* fit or do not fit together.
- Dawy suggested that we look at other options to doing the *Called and Gifted Discernment Process*.
- Fr. Jerry, Kirsti, Greg and MaryAnn will get more information.
- MaryAnn will ask Austin Eli if any other parishes in our area are involved and share the response.

### **Year of Renewal (YOR)**

Joe Pauwels reported that the YOR planning team was pleased with the results of a survey given to YOR facilitators regarding the process/format of the first sessions. (Dawy asked for a copy of the survey results to be emailed to him.) Joe asked that PC members email thoughts and or comments regarding the YOR to him. ([joseph.pauwels@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joseph.pauwels@sbcglobal.net)).

Joe related that the YOR planning team is concerned with what to do with the information from the YOR especially as it pertains to *Mission, Vision and Values* at St. John Fisher. The planning team will bring their information to the PC.

Joe suggested that a survey be given to those attending the small group sessions. Fr. Jerry proposed that perhaps the survey should be given to all parishioners because the YOR is intended to involve the entire community and the number of participants in small groups is limited. The planning team could then summarize the responses and share them with the PC. The PC could use the results as direction for the upcoming year.

The difficulty in evaluating the results of such a survey was discussed. Kirsti suggested that there is software available for quantitating words after coding for themes. Kirsti is investigating the possibility of obtaining and using the software.

Fr. Jerry was concerned that there may not be sufficient time between the final session of the YOR, completion of the survey, and the April joint-meeting of the PC and PT which is typically where we

present our priority for the upcoming year. He felt that this year the PC will just get the final report from the planning committee.

Scott Kehrer proposed that we invite the YOR planning team to the April meeting. Fr. Jerry and Joe agreed.

Fr. Jerry concluded the discussion with 'Lessons Learned' saying that the YOR booklets will be distributed one week earlier so that individuals will have adequate time to read and prepare for discussions in small groups.

### **3. Updates**

#### **Youth Group**

Evan Barlage gave a detailed report of the youth group activities. (A complete list of activities can be found on the SJF website.) He said for the 25-30 members the activities provided a bonding experience and the opportunity to make lifelong friendships. Evan stressed that youth group activities were not classroom-based as are those for the junior youth group and that making eighth graders and freshmen more aware of this fact may increase membership. Kirsti suggested that seniors meet with members of the Fusion Young Adult Ministry for a similar purpose. It was suggested that someone from the Fusion group attend the *Farewell to Seniors*, May 16, youth group meeting. Dairdre and Scott will contact Mrs. Kudla to set it up.

#### **New Member Welcoming**

Ann Moran attended the new member welcoming on Jan.5, 2010. Ann stated that three young couples joined SJF.

#### **Offertory and GISC**

Jerry Bishop reported that 41% of the campaign goal has been met. The three year CSA commitment has been met so that payments on the debt from the lighting project can be made. Repairs to the church roof and the parking lot will follow as funds become available. Jerry reminded the PC that the debt could be paid in full if all member families pledged \$1.00 per day for three years.

The campaign for electronic giving will occur at the end of January. Letters will be mailed to parishioners asking for a financial commitment which will be used for financial planning for the future.

Fr. Jerry stated that in April/May a letter will be sent to those families who have not committed to the three year campaign asking them to participate in a two year campaign and likewise a year later for a one year campaign .

Dairdre brought up that one sink in the Ladies Room does not work. Fr. Jerry replied that he and the maintenance staff are aware of the problem but that the water is turned off due to a major leak which cannot be easily fixed. Fr. Jerry will ask that a sign be put on the sink indicating that it is not working.

#### **Parish Council Nominations**

Dairdre distributed a form explaining the role of the PC with a nominating form on the reverse side. She asked that each council member secure at least one nomination for the upcoming year.

Fr. Jerry cautioned that all members (past as well as new members) must attend the August 15, 2010 meeting so that if a person who may be interested in being on the council cannot attend, they may consider waiting another year.

Dawy requested an electronic copy of the Role of Parish Council/Nominating Form. Fr. Jerry will mail the form to all members.

**Pontiac Area Vicariate (PAV)**

Joe Pauwels reported that the PAV held their first meeting with Fr. Stan Ulman as vicar on January 5. Minutes from that meeting can be found on the PAV website.

**Upcoming Items**

**ACTS:Jan. 16, 2010**

MaryAnn Weller gave a brief description of the upcoming *ACTS: A CALL TO SERVE* program to train lay ministers for voluntary service. Having previously attended the program and finding it beneficial, MaryAnn encouraged council members to attend.

**Campus/Young Adult Retreat**

The Campus/Young Adult Retreat will occur on January 29-31 at the Subiaco Benedictine Retreat House in Oxford, MI. The parish council will provide the Saturday evening meal for attendees. All members are asked to contribute \$10.00 to defray the cost of food. Checks or cash should be given to Dairdre who is in charge of this endeavor. PC members are asked to bring a dessert to the parish activity center by noon on Saturday, January 30.

The closing prayer was led by Dawy.

## Action Items/January 10, 2010

1. **Dairdre:** Scott Kehrer asked if the May meeting (May 30, 2010) would be moved because it occurs during Memorial Day weekend. At the meeting, no one had a calendar to check the date of Memorial Day, but as it does fall in the same weekend as the May meeting a change of date will be considered.
2. **MaryAnn:** MaryAnn Weller is in the process of contacting Austin Eli, Program Coordinator, at the Catherine of Siena Institute to clarify what initial preparations for instituting the "Called and Gifted Discernment Process".
3. **Fr. Jerry, Kirsti, Greg and MaryAnn:** Fr. Jerry, Kirsti, Greg and MaryAnn will get more information on the *Called and Gifted Discernment Process*. MaryAnn will ask Austin Eli if any other parishes in our area are involved and share the response.
4. **Joe:** Dawy asked for a copy of the YOR survey results to be emailed to him.  
**All PC members:** Joe asked that PC members email thoughts and or comments regarding the YOR to him. ([joseph.pauwels@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joseph.pauwels@sbcglobal.net)) .
5. **Kirsti:** The difficulty in evaluating the results of such a survey was discussed. Kirsti suggested that there is software available for quantitating words after coding for themes. Kirsti is investigating the possibility of obtaining and using the software.
6. **Dairdre:** Scott Kehrer proposed that we invite the YOR planning team to the April meeting. Fr. Jerry and Joe agreed.
7. **Dairdre and Scott:** It was suggested that someone from the Fusion group attend the *Farewell to Seniors*, May 16, youth group meeting. Dairdre and Scott will contact Mrs. Kudla to set it up.
8. **Fr. Jerry:** Dairdre brought up that one sink in the Ladies Room does not work. Fr. Jerry replied that he and the maintenance staff are aware of the problem but that the water is turned off due to a major leak which cannot be easily fixed. Fr. Jerry will ask that a sign be put on the sink indicating that it is not working.
9. **Fr. Jerry:** Dawy requested an electronic copy of the Role of Parish Council/Nominating Form. Fr. Jerry will mail the form to all members.
10. **All PC members:** The Campus/Young Adult Retreat will occur on January 29-31 at the Subiaco Benedictine Retreat House in Oxford, MI. The parish council will provide the Saturday evening meal for attendees. All members are asked to contribute \$10.00 to defray the cost of food. Checks or cash should be given to Dairdre who is in charge of this endeavor. PC members are asked to bring a dessert to the parish activity center by noon on Saturday, January 30.

