

Meeting Minutes
St. John Fisher Parish Council
Nov. 15, 2009

Members present:

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| Fr. Jerry | Dairdre McGlothlin |
| Dick Brennan | Ann Moran |
| Jerry Bishop | Joe Pauwels |
| Dawy Gonzalez-Ruiz | Kirsti Reeve |
| Scott Kehrer | Greg Schultz |
| Juli Kubicki | MaryAnn Weller |

Council members gathered in the Rochester Room and were treated to a delicious brunch by Dick Brennan.

1. Opening

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Dairdre McGlothlin with the opening prayer led by Kirsti Reeve. Dairdre asked for revisions to the minutes of the September 9, 2009 meeting. There were none and the minutes stood as written.

2. Focus Items for Discernment

PAV October Meeting: Feedback

Dairdre asked for comments on the “Called and Gifted” discernment process presented by Sherry Weddell at the PAV Assembly of October 26, 2009. Council members were invited to attend this presentation in lieu of the regularly scheduled October meeting.

A discussion of charisms followed. Salient points included:

- Charisms are different than talents, charisms being gifts gift from God given to us to be used for the sake of others while talents can be used for our own benefit.
- Charisms allow us to find deeper meaning on our faith.
- Charisms are given to us to be used for the benefit of others.
- Charisms, as a gift of the Spirit at Baptism, elevate the laity. Any individual may have one or several charisms so that everyone in parish leadership bears responsibility for exercising their charisms and fostering and supporting the vocations of all baptized people.

Several suggestions were made including:

- Inviting the Pastoral Team to a ‘Charism Workshop’
- Using a small group of volunteers to take the charism assessment test
- Forming a committee to research this topic.

The following members volunteered to look into the process of identifying charisms:

- Greg Schultz offered to email a link to an online test. He also volunteered to examine the kit obtained at the meeting by Fr. Jerry.
- MaryAnn Weller will email Sherry Weddell and ask for recommendations to how to proceed, specifically where does the facilitator come from and/or do we need a facilitator.
- Kirsti Reeve said she also has a kit and will study it.

These members will report at the January meeting.

Before concluding the discussion, several members remarked that they were put off by the obvious sales pitch that Ms. Weddell used in promoting her program.

PAV October Meeting: Meeting Format

Dairdre asked if the council liked the format of replacing our regular meeting with the PAV Assembly.

- Joe Pauwels replied that he would like to have both the regular scheduled PC meeting as well as attendance at the PAV, adding that he felt an interaction was needed.
- Fr. Jerry liked the common experience for the parish leadership suggesting that perhaps the PC and the PT should meet together for a 'debriefing'. He was aware that time constraints made this difficult for all involved.
- Julie Kubicki thought there was little sharing at joint meetings even though Dairdre contributed that they were shared experiences.

All of these suggestions will be considered when scheduling upcoming meetings.

Fr. Jerry offered the PT perspective on the "Called and Gifted" discernment process. He said that while the 'Time and Talent' survey is much needed by various parish ministries, there is a flip side considering what the parish does for its members. When the discernment of charisms is put into the context of the SJF Mission, Vision and Values (MVVs), in particular that of 'committing to spiritual growth', it can be considered one of our goals and that it may be a way to increase adult spirituality. This may be a good follow up to the YOR. Joe suggested that this may be a good topic for the PC/PT joint meeting in April.

3. Updates Year of Renewal

Joe Pauwels gave an update on the YOR.

- About 160 people are involved in the small groups and the response is positive.
- Facilitators report that good discussions are taking place.
- The Tuesday evening sessions are well attended (about 100 people) although it is not known how many people attending on Tuesday evenings are also members of a small group.
- The YOR committee is considering a survey to assess the effectiveness of the written materials.

Fr. Jerry added that with regards to the MVVs, he is considering stewardship (not just about giving money), discernment of charisms, and new evangelization for updating the MVVs.

Finances GSIC

Jerry Bishop reported on the capital campaign. He reminded the council that before any funds can be put into the SJF savings account, the CSA commitment must be met. Jerry said about 114 families have pledged \$205,000. This means that the campaign could be paid off if the 680

families that have not pledged would commit to just one dollar per day for two years. The council members were asked to 'talk up' the need to consider pledging.

Offertory

Jerry said that the offertory collection is about \$15,000 ahead. He concluded by saying that the Finance Committee does not want to deluge parishioners with letters about money.

Ann Moran added that electronic giving will be offered again in January. She summarized pending items on the Finance Committee agenda including an endowment fund and building maintenance like the new roof, routing of water away from the foundation, replacing heat and air conditioning units, and repairing the parking lot. All of these are on hold due to lack of funds.

Welcoming

Scott Kehrer and Kirsti Reeve attended the new member welcoming on November 5, 2009. They felt that the presence of parishioners let new members know that people at SJF care. Council members agreed that before Mass welcoming was going well and appreciated by parishioners. Fr. Jerry contributed a personal story of an individual who entered the RCIA program as a result of welcoming before Mass.

Commission Reports

PC liaisons discussed the activities of their respective commissions. All reported much positive activity reflecting the spirit of the SJF community. Detailed reports may be obtained from the commission heads.

Child Church is looking for more volunteers. Suggestions included:

- An article in the parish bulletin.
- To encourage members who may find the prospect of teaching the children intimidating, interested people may go back with the children and observe.
- Have a child church liturgist do a 'show and tell' by giving the reflection at weekend masses.
- Become an assistant liturgist before transitioning to lead.

PAV

Fr. Jerry was happy to announce that Fr. Stanley Ulman of St. Mary of the Hills Parish has been appointed as the new vicar for the PAV.

Upcoming Items

PC Meeting: Dec. 6, 2009

The December meeting will be our Christmas Social with the Pastoral Team. It will take place at the Stratford Manor Clubhouse after mass. Julie Kubicki will contact members about their contribution to the pot luck.