

Pastoral Council Minutes—St. Vincent de Paul
May 20, 2010

Members Present: Ann Bergman, Janice Gabrick, Fr. Jack Long, Tom McMullen, Adriana Matzke, Nancy Moorman, Norm Olafson, Andrew Rem, Marci Siers, Fr. Chue Vang. Guest: Mark Curwick. Recorder: Dorothy Stevenson.

1. Agenda Items:

2. Prayer: Tom did the Bible reading, and prayers for intentions followed.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the April meeting were approved as written.

4. Welcome:

Marci introduced Mark Curwick, who will be joining the Council, and members introduced themselves and welcomed him.

5. Discernment Night:

Andrew presented an overview and commented on the feedback which has been received. The general feeling was that for the most part the night went well.

6. Evaluation of Nomination Process/Information Night/Discernment:

(A) Feedback from participants and ways to improve the process were discussed, as were the timing of the process for next year in light of the date of Easter, First Communication changes, etc. Andrew will put together a manual on what was done this year and will include feedback from participants and suggestions from members to assist in planning for next year. A subcommittee will be needed to work on details. There was general feeling that the experience from this year will be a great help in future planning.

(B) The question of filling positions still vacant was raised. It was decided that those who attended Discernment Night but were not assigned to a position, as well as those who had gone through the process but had not attended Discernment Night, should be sent an email asking whether they are still interested and if so, inviting them to take one of the open positions. Norm and Andrew will handle this. Those invited will be asked to contact the facilitator of the group they wish to join. Andrew will handle his own group as well as Faith Formation and Education, and Tom will handle the Council. If no one volunteers to take the open Council position, that position can be filled as it normally has been in the past.

(C) Assignment of Council members to commissions was tabled for now, but Marci will contact members by email to learn their preferences.

7. Archdiocese Strategic Planning Update:

Norm reported that there has been good communication with the parishes and each deanery has been asked to come up with a plan for how it would handle such things as losing a priest, etc. Parishes may be closed, others joined, etc. Norm will be sending an invitation to Council and commission members to attend a question-and-answer meeting concerning the upcoming changes. The meeting will be held at St. Vincent de Paul on the evening of June 10. Information on what will be happening will also be in the bulletin and a letter will be sent out to all parishioners.

8. Pastoral Council Retreat:

Janice will check to be sure that everything is in order at St. Therese for the September retreat and will contact the facilitator to be sure that aspect is under control.

9. New Pastoral Council Chair:

Andrew agreed to be chair and Ann will be co-chair for the coming year.

10. Pastor's Report:

(a) Fr. Jack applauded the Council for its efforts in putting together a successful and Spirit-filled Discernment process and outlined what he expects from the new commissions. (b) He and Fr. Chue will be attending a workshop on changes which will be made in the mass in 2011.

11. Other Business:

Regan Hall has been reserved for the June 15 Council social and Marci and Nancy will do what planning needs to be done for that.

12. Prayer: The meeting closed with a prayer.

The next meeting will be the annual social on Tuesday, June 15 2010.