

**Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
Pastoral Council Meeting
Approved Meeting Minutes for September 7, 2023**

Present: Anne Dettlaff, Dave Fennelly (Business Manager), Michael Flaherty(Trustee), Rachel Henderson, Jerry Huber, Nancy Jelen, David Knoll, Judy Kumprey (Recording Secretary) Paula Lucey, Elaine May, Jason Metz, John Plant, Brigid Riordan, Dennis Sobush, Chase Stubley, Brian Sullivan, Sue Switalski, Father Joy Thachil, Sharon Wrotecki

Guests: None

Absent: Karen Glowacki, Dan Ryan

Opening Prayer and Scripture Readings

Read Vision and Mission Statement (This was read before the Discernment meeting in the sanctuary)

Vision: To be a growing community that inspires all to follow Jesus with a spirit of inclusion, compassion, and service.

Mission: We encourage all to deepen their relationship with Jesus through scripture, prayer, stewardship, and ministry to others.

Tag Line: Follow Jesus | Serve Others

Review and Accept Minutes From Previous Minutes

The September minutes stand as corrected and approved.

Report From Father Joy Thachil

- A. Thank you for the **new** Pastoral Council members.
- B. Thanked all the officers for their past years.
- C. Thanked all the volunteers from the Blood Drive.
- D. Thanked the VBC team and volunteers. It was a very successful bible camp.

Report from Sue Switalski

- A. Some of the team attended a Formation session at the archdiocese.
- B. Someone from the Pastoral Council needs to attend the Deanery meeting.
- C. Sue said whatever happens at this table goes all the way to the archdiocese.

Financial Report from Dave Fennelly

- A. The fiscal year ended June 30, and started July 1st, so there is not much to report. The festival looks like it was another great year, but he cannot finalize figures until all the bills are paid.

Unfinished Business

- A. Sharon Anderson manages the eucharistic ministers and she said they will be ready to offer the precious blood of Jesus sometime in October.
- B. Father Joy handed out an article on the body and blood of Jesus. Ordinary ministers are the ordained priests, bishops and deacons and the extraordinary ministers are the lay people who assist the Ordinary ministers in the Sacramental celebrations.
- C. Father Joy said there will be an option to not receive the precious blood of Jesus if so chosen.
- D. David Knoll said pastoral council members are here to be the voice of the parish. We should try to be ready to answer peoples questions. Wear your name plates.

New Business

- A. You will have the opportunity to attend the National Congress July 17th through the 21st of 2024 in Indianapolis. Sue will have more details on this in the future.
- B. Al McCauley, Dan Scholz and Rita McGann will be presenting a talk of their trip to the Holy Land Thursday, September 14, 2023 at Elizabeth Ann Seton.
- C. Dan Scholz will be back to speak Monday, November 13, 2023.
- D. Our parish website has been updated by Kathy Stawicki. She is putting a lot of work into improving the website. She is also the contact person for the bulletin.
- E. Dennis Sobush asked what everyone thought about listening to the readings on the website versus reading the Bible. There was much discussion on this. Chase Stublely said he likes to listen to them while driving. Some said they like to multi-task while listening to them. It may be a generational thing. Father Joy said "My Catholic Life" is a great site to visit. He said there are many bible podcasts out there and they are all free.
- F. Pastoral and Finance Councils training
 - 1. Father Joy thought that because we have four new council members we might want to do some training and we could invite Laura Engel to come and help with this. Meetings could be about 45-60 minutes long.
 - 2. Traditionally the pastoral council members would have a retreat in Jan/Feb but because of COVID there has not been one in awhile. Father Joy said maybe we could plan something this October. Sue will ask Laura Engel when she might be available.
 - 3. Dave Fennelly will be updating the three ring binders and get them to the new members. Dave will be meeting with the Finance Committee next week. He stated that they need a representative from the Pastoral Council to attend these meetings.
- G. The Future of the Information Booth
 - 1. David Knoll said the participation is not what it was when we first started it. He said it is the responsibility of the Pastor Council to tend to it.
 - 2. Elaine May stated that she thinks we should keep the booth and maybe other people could help monitor it.
 - 3. Chase thinks it is important to share information on many things with people who might have questions. He thinks it is valuable.

4. Anne Dettlaff said there should be more than just pastoral council members involved. Getting other people involved could really help. Brigid Riordan said this could be typically a greeter.
5. There are more new member packets in a drawer in the sacristy. Jason Metz said it is hit or miss whether people are in the hallway after mass.
6. Dave Fennelly suggested that a group look into the information booth and come back with ideas.
7. David Knoll stated there will be a meeting Sunday in Sippel Hall about ministry leaders and he will bring this up there.
8. Anne Dettlaff said if anyone asks about something that you don't have the answer to, take their name, get the answer and then get back to them.

H. Open Discussion

1. Otto Radtke has retired from the Finance Council after many, many years of serving. There was discussion on how to acknowledge his many years of service. Father Joy said some parishes do a stewardship award, maybe along with a gift card. Dave Fennelly said he knows Otto well and knows he would appreciate a card and he is going to do an article in the bulletin about his service.
2. Dennis Sobush brought up an idea of using the Reflection room for people who need help like putting their personal possessions during mass. This room is used for many things including meetings and it was thought this could be a big liability issue. Dave Fennelly said we do have a coatrack that will be coming out for the colder weather. This is something greeters could be more aware of and could offer help to people in need.
3. Dave Fennelly would like to bring up the auctions we used to have. Is it something that could be resurrected? Mike Flaherty mentioned that we could get a group to look into this matter and bring information back to the council.

Prayers

Prayers were requested for many people.

Closing Prayer

Nancy Jelen said the closing prayer

Next meeting is October 5th 2023 at 6:30 p.m.