

Newman Hall – Holy Spirit Parish
Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
July 11, 2023, 7:30 PM to 9:15PM

Present: Father Ivan Tou, Alan Roselius, Carlos Mora, Gary Schmoranc, Greg Govan – *Deputy Secretary*, Homer Teng – *Chairperson*, Jimmy Nguyen, Lorina Daves Tornai, Marc Nguyen, Marie Retherford, Mark Stanley, and Virginia Muller

Absent: Kathleen O'Brien – *Secretary*

The **opening prayer** was led by Virginia.

The **minutes of June 2023** were approved with amended changes from Fr. Ivan.

The Council decided to **meet on the 2nd Monday** of each month starting at the next meeting on August 14th. Exceptions will be made if Fr. Ivan is unavailable on a given Monday. Since the meeting in October falls on Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day, the council will consider moving the meeting to another date.

Because Homer is unable to attend the meeting, he will ask Council Secretary Kathleen O'Brien to be the acting chair for that meeting.

The **Mission and Core Values** statement was read and discussed. It will stand as is until the Council or the pastor decides to change it in the future. It was suggested that the Core Values should be included in the weekly parish bulletin.

Father Ivan would like to expand the size of the Council to accommodate additional student representation. Currently, Marc Nguyen is the lone student representative. The Council voiced its approval of the proposal. To seek a balance of student perspectives, members would like to see a female student be appointed.

Homer distributed and reviewed a document entitled *Parish Pastoral Council Committee Descriptions*. Council members provided feedback and decided on the following:

- The deadline for submitting agenda items for consideration at an upcoming meeting is the Monday before the meeting date.
- Ten minutes at the end of the agenda will be reserved for council members to bring up new items for discussion and action.
- Virginia agreed to chair the Liturgy Committee.
- A priority for the Hospitality Committee is to find a chairperson, who could be a council member or someone from a parish ministry who is invited to join the committee.

Homer distributed a new version of the *Catholic Discipleship Profile Report Recommendations* for review. After each recommendation, he listed which committee of the council would be best suited to address it. He assigned 25 items to the Hospitality Committee and 23 to the Liturgy Committee. He intended this document to be used as a guide for council members to decide which priorities they would like to pursue for the current year.

Father Ivan is forming an *ad hoc* committee to organize a **Parish Retreat**. Tentatively the retreat will be on a Saturday ending with the 5:00PM Mass in the Fall. It will be for both students and regular parishioners. Any council member who is interested should contact Fr. Ivan.

Virginia shared her idea of a **Ministry Fair**. Each ministry would have a representative at their respective table with written materials, sign-up sheets for interested prospects, and perhaps food. The main planning task is to coordinate with the leadership of various ministries.

Virginia suggested having the Ministry Fair in late September or October. However, the majority of the council members felt that the best time for it would be at the beginning of the academic year, before students get too busy with schoolwork and other activities.

The Council decided that the event should be on the weekend of August 26-27. Virginia indicated that she will be out of town that weekend, but she is willing to help with the planning of the fair. Lorina and Carlos volunteered to organize the fair.

Alan reported on the activities of the **Building and Maintenance Committee**. He mentioned the projects that are under way or under consideration. There has been significant testing to determine the source of the leak and damage in the Hecker Room but so far nothing can be found as the cause. It was suggested that the plastic tent under the major leak be removed.

Father Ivan mentioned the names of the contractors for the maintenance projects, their bids, and permit approval status.

Lorina and Marie brought the Council up to date on the **Parish Potluck and Trivia Night**. 40 people have signed up so far. Council members were encouraged to volunteer for set up and clean up tasks. Carlos and parishioner Jim Radcliff will work with Father Ryan to do the cooking. Marie described the Bible Trivia game.

Lorina, filling in for Kathleen, reported on the celebration of **St. Phoebe Day** scheduled for the weekend of September 9-10, based on an e-mail message that Kathleen provided her. Lorina will share that message with the rest of the Council.

Father Ivan distributed his attached **Pastor's Update for July 11, 2023**. He highlighted the following items:

- A. Paulist Visitation 9-27 to 10-1-23: In preparation for the official visit of the Father Ivan recommended that a Subcommittee be established to draft a summary of the state of Newman and parishioner expectations for a new pastor who will be assigned by August 2024.
- B. Building And Grounds: New roof is coming in at \$150,000. vortex doors at \$100K +, Solar Project \$72K awaiting City approval, Hecker Room leak is still under investigation, boiler pumps have installed but they are not working.
- C. Loaves and Fishes: This ministry is in the process of forming a board to ensure accountability of donor funds, and to address the needs of the times.
- D. Children's Faith Formation: This ministry lacks a staff person to direct the faith formation program for children. Fr. Ivan is seeking more parent involvement to support the catechetical needs of different age groups.
- E. Music Ministry: Fr. Ivan asked for feedback on the liturgical music at Newman. Some council members mentioned they liked the diversity of musical styles. Some preferred to have Colleen coordinate music at all Masses. **He mentioned that since the Director of Music Ministry is part-time, the position doesn't provide enough time to coordinate music at all Masses.**

Under **New Business**, Alan brought up the question of when and how Newman Hall would resume offering the Eucharistic cup at Mass. Fr. Ivan shared the Church protocols regarding the proper disposition of the Body and Blood of Christ. The Council will continue that discussion at the next meeting.

Brainstorming Session: Each member was asked to submit three priorities on small pieces of paper for the Parish Council to address this coming year. About thirty items were submitted and posted on a board. Marie and Mark helped organize the suggested items into the following (1) Faith Development & Education, (2) Outreach and Evangelization, and (3) Back Together after COVID. The specific suggestions will be shared via e-mail, and they will be prioritized at the next meeting.

Virginia led the Council in a **Closing Prayer**. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Next Meeting
Monday, August 14, 2023
7:30PM to 9:00PM
Hecker Room