

## St Augustine Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2019

**Present:** Fred Furtek, Lucretia Hudzinski, Dave Kelmemntowski, Deb Krisher, Marilyn Powell, Mary Francis Sabin, Lynn Shepard Scott, Deb Starczewski, Matt Williams, Anne Domanico

**Excused:** Fr Cliff Auth, Robin Grabowski, Dc John Pedrotti, Chris Vander Voort

**Opening Prayer:** Was offered by Deb Krisher

**Approve Minutes from October 2019 Meeting:** Minutes of October 21, 2019 were approved. Future meeting times were discussed. It was suggested that the Holiday Party be moved to January 12, 2020. Lynn Shepard Scott will pol the Council to check everyone's availability.

**Approve Minutes from November 2019 Meeting:** Minutes of November 17, 2019 were approved.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Pastoral Council Publicity** - Marilyn Powell has agreed to coordinate publicity of the Pastoral Council members. She has asked everyone to submit a short bio and is in the process of taking photos of every member of the Council. These will be published in the Weekly Church Bulletin and on the church website as a way for parishioners to become more familiar with the Pastoral Council Members.

**Visioning** - Lucretia Hudzinski reported on community needs. She contacted several county agencies, including Frances House, 211, Contact, Care Net and is waiting to hear back from several more. She will provide a summary of her findings to the Council. Matt Williams discussed why people join churches and will put together a summary of his findings and ideas. Lynn Shepard Scott proposed creating a Steering Committee that would consist of a couple of Council members, people from the Finance Committee, Social Action Committee and the parish at large to pull all the material together to start working on creating a cohesive vision for our parish's future.

**Committee on Leadership Crisis** - Will be tabled until our January meeting.

**Covenant Weekend** - There was much discussion in possibly presenting Covenant Weekend differently than in the past. One suggestion was moving it to

Pentecost Weekend, May 31<sup>st</sup>, and have three different celebrations after each Liturgy, for example Wine & Cheese Party after Saturday 5:15, Donuts and Coffee after the Sunday 8:00, and a food truck after the 10:30. It was suggested there be a more on-line presence, have Covenant Weekend discussed every weekend in church for several weekends, and pew activities after Mass. This discussion will be continued at the January 2020 meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:** No new business at this time.

**Suggestion Box:** A parishioner approached Anne Domanico with two concerns. First request is that there be an oblong table available in the Gathering Room for committee meetings. It was explained that Room 5 was set up for committee meetings and that is not the intended use of the Gathering Room space. Room 5 is easier to heat and has plenty of tables and chairs that can accommodate large groups.

The second concern is that there is a tree growing up around the flag pole and it impedes the flag from flying unencumbered. The Council recommended that the tree be cut in order to allow the American flag to fly freely. Anne will follow up with both of these concerns.

**Prayer Life & Worship:** Robin Grabowski submitted a report. The Liturgy Committee decided that the Anointing of the Sick will be after Mass on the last Saturday of the month. The committee also discussed possibly forming a new ministry to address special needs issues in the parish community.

**Parish Outreach:** Lucretia Hudzinski reported that November is a peak season of activity for SAM (Social Action). There is the Tee Shirt/Sweatshirt collection for the men's shelter, Thanksgiving food collection, the Giving Tree, Ramen Noodle collection and many, many more opportunities for parishioners to participate on a seasonal or ongoing basis in our community.

**Fundraising:** Fred Furtek reported that the Happy Holidays fundraiser netted \$11,427.71 for the Parish. More theme baskets and 50/50 raffle tickets were sold than last year. There were positive comments about the Grand Finale which was held in our parish hall.

**Spiritual Development & Faith Formation:** Deb Starczewski reported that the new Faith Formation format seems to be going well. The Men's and Women's Retreats will be offered in the winter months.

**Diocesan Pastoral Council:** Anne Domanico distributed a summary of Bishop Barron's video "On How to Reach out to the Nones." He proposes five strategies on how to

engage people who are not affiliated with any religion or who may be non-practicing Catholics. There was a presentation by the Catholic Sun. They are starting a subscription drive in 2020 and are looking for an advocate from each parish to help them enroll new subscribers. The DPC voted to change an article in the Constitution. Previously a DPC Representative needed to be a member of a church's Pastoral Council. The change indicates that the pastor or parish administrator can appoint a DPC Rep from the parish at large. Danielle Cummings reported that due to the Child Victims Act there are now 33 new civil law suits involving 36 victims. Fortunately, our Diocese is in a good position to resolve these cases and does not anticipate any financial disruptions at this time.

**Pastoral Team Report:** Deb Krisher proposed that the Council approve Chris Vander Voort's appointment for a 1 year term as Parish Trustee. Chris' appointment was unanimously approved. Deb said that due to the new guidelines sent by the Diocesan Director of Liturgy the children's Christmas play will not be presented at the Gospel this year. It will be before the beginning of Mass and Santa Claus will still come in at the end of Liturgy.

**Closing Prayer:** Presented by Lucretia Hudzinski

**Next meeting:** January 13, 2020, 6:00 PM, Gathering Room

Respectfully submitted 1/13/2020  
Anne G Domanico.