

Mary, Mother of God Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, June 11, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
St. Ita Jubilee Hall

Present: Fr. Alejandro Lopez, Jack Nuelle, Frank Ativie, Kokou Dagawa, Fr. Bob Sprott, Cheryl Sporlein, Joyce Ramirez-Knight, James Murphy, Deacon Paul Spalla, Susan Silvano, Robert Krug, Eunice Daniels, Yasha Hookens, Stephanie Held

Not present: Chris Grant, Deacon Ron, Diane Trinh, Eva Niewiadomski, Fr. Thomas Fetz, Heberto Machado, Jr., Juan Ramirez, Lionel Osaghae, Lorena Nava de Machado, Lucy Cordon, Mark A. Franzen, Mercedes Mac Laughlin, Michael Magada, Ms. Boyd, Fr. Romert Morales, Vince Singvongsa

Guests: Ellen L. Credille. Rick Landry and Sarah Pelrine from Archdiocesan Directorate of Vicariate Renewal

Meeting began 7:07pm

Opening Prayer

Reviewing Purpose and Function of Parish Pastoral Council

- Introducing the Directorate of Vicariate Renewal:
 - Help to build evangelization from the top down
 - Focused on Chapter 3 of Parish Pastoral Council guidelines
 -
- James Murphy (Director of Canterbury House (CH)) discussed what CH is and what it does:
 - Rooted in Catholic Worker Tradition
 - Round table discussion
 - Reconnecting to the land (garden)
 - Greatest thing the house does is welcome anyone who wants to come in
- CH Programming:
 - Mondays from 1-5 people from the street are invited in
 - Tuesday night Bible Study made up of guests from soup kitchen
 - Wednesday night dinner for migrant families
 - CH currently housing a migrant family
 - Volunteer ESL program
 - Mother and worker owned cleaning cooperative (way for undocumented people to legally work)
- CH Needs:
 - Help with ESL program
 - Vincent DePaul Society helping with ESL
 - Help with finding housing (calling landlords, etc.)

- Help with worker owned cooperative
- Immigration legal needs
- Rick Landry defined parish council:
 - Cardinal Cupich has renewed what a parish council should be
 - Not supposed to be just a recitation of parish activities but a strategic group that helps steer the parish in a certain direction (driven by parish vision and mission)
 - PPC works strategy at top layer (long term decisions, guiding strategy) helping to direct the on the ground day to day tactical work
 - Vision: what parish is going to look like
 - Mission: how parish is going to get there
 - Strategic Plan: concrete steps to enact mission
 - MMOG needs a core leadership team
- Questions/Comments from group:
 -
- Remaining Questions:
 - How to get news out to whole parish most effectively?
 - What are the needs of community that MMOG should meet?
 - What are the hoped for outcomes of our ministry?
- People interested in helping James at CH:
 - Robert Krug
 - Deacon Paul Spalla
 - Eunice Daniels
 - Jack Nuelle
 - Joyce Ramirez-Knight

Minutes Approved

- Motion to approve March meeting minutes from Joyce, seconded by Robert, followed by unanimous approval

Update on Parish Census

- Process for administering census established by working group; will be sent around in near future
- Goal of census is to better understand make-up of parish
- Major need: to update parishioner information in Parish Soft to allow for targeted marketing

Welcome Procedures for New Parishioners

- Team brainstormed on how to welcome new parishioners
 - There is a new revamped new parishioner form

- Team proposed a new welcome packet
 - New focus on three worship sites (MMOG prayer card included in packet)
 - Interest card included which asks:
 - Preferred way to be contacted
 - Do you want the newsletter?
 - Are you interested in certain ministries?
- Question: Can new parishioners be welcomed at mass? This can be something that the welcome team can arrange if the parishioner wants it
- Vote to decide if people on PPC should call new parishioners and welcome them
 - **Joyce motioned to take a vote. All voted in favor**
 - Parties interested in being on welcoming committee to let team know

Operations

- Hired help to take care of parking overflow
- Vandalism on mural has been taken care of
 - cameras will be installed in parking lot for extra security
- Leak at St. GG being fixed

St. Gregory's Hall

- Handout passed around with St. Gregory's Hall program updates

School Report

- School closed for the summer

Liturgy and Worship

- Mark Franzen organizing the process for creating MMOG altar for Eucharistic Revival Mass at Mary Queen of all Saints on June 29, 2024

Religious Education Update

- Series of first communions and confirmations
- RCIA is continuing through the summer

Taste of Summer

- Happening on Sunday July 21st

Disabled Parishioner Accommodation Questions

- Can we convert (take out) front pews on left and right side of St. Ita's for seating for parishioners in wheelchairs?
- Pews around seating for disabled should be reserved for families

Schedule Adjustment

- PPC now meeting every other month
- Subcommittees to meet on off months (when PPC is not meeting)

Next Meeting

- Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 7:00pm in St. Ita's Jubilee Hall

Closing Prayer

Meeting ended at 8:23pm