**Pastoral Council Minutes of**

**July 7, 2018 - 7 p.m.**

**Members present – Father Dodge, Steve Torres, Mary Garves, Mary Carol Hoffman, Scott Weaver, Sandy & Ollie Schulteis , Colleen Nugent, Claire Blau**

1. Introductions  & Mission – This was Father Dodge’s first meeting with the council so everyone shared some personal and family information. Claire Blau was introduced as a new council member representing the students from UW-L and WTC.
2. Review May minutes

Minutes from the May 1st meeting were review and approved.

1. Welcome to Father Dodge – All of the council members present were very thankful to have a full time parish priest.
2. Joint meeting with Finance Council - Aug. – Steve

It was difficult getting a hold of someone from the Finance Council, and regarding a joint meeting in July, it would not work because of their work on the Parish Budget. We might look at a joint meeting in early to later Fall.

1. Welcome Back Sunday – Sept. 9th –Steve

Steve has an email message out to Sara Slayton regarding working out arrangements with the Tent that they set up for their Storyteller Conference annually. The Parish pays for the extra day of Tent Rental. Steve has also contacted Andy Wettstein to set up electricity and possible T.V. service, but this year the Packers have a night game. A short conversation was held regarding any changes that we might consider. Father Dodge suggested a start time of 11:20 to allow University students who are new a grace period to get to the park incase they accidently go to the Newman Center for 11:15am Mass instead of the park.

There was a short discussion about parishioners bringing desserts and salads, but last year there appeared to be an excess of potato salads.

1. Life Touch Photography –Jim

There was considerable discussion on this, with council members suggesting we need a picture directory and a list of parishioners’ names, phone number and email addresses that could be updated on an annual basis. Some parishioners mentioned a concern they had with Life Touch staff who worked on the 2011 directory. That old staff has been replaced.

I am not sure so let me know if the council would like me to invite Mark Rousch to our Aug. meeting, or we could have a small committee of council members work on the details of a setting a picture directory up for this fall.

1. Sound System Update - sounds great –Mary

Mary shared some of the background of this process for Father Dodge’s sake. The entire council express their gratitude to Mary on putting together the entire proposal and then being a major player in raising the dollars to pay for the system. Excellent Job Mary!

1. Kitchen remodeling update -Jim

Susan Brown indicated to me that the Kitchen Committee had a long way to go in making a decision on what might be done with the Kitchen. Mary who is part of the Kitchen Planning committee indicated that they looked at some kitchens for ideas but some of them had a larger footprint than ours. They were planning to visit some church that had a comparable size to assist with planning.

  Mary stated that once there was a plan, it would be phased in.

There was between $3,000 - $4,000 left over from the sound system project, which is being set aside for kitchen improvements.

1. Art Fair on the Green – Assistance

The discussion involved dollars that at one time was allocated to the Social Justice committee but because of budget constraints was halted.  The plan would be to have a represented from Social Justice discuss ideas, directions, etc. for the Pastoral Council gain some insight and possible assistance.

1. Sheet Music for Masses –

Father Dodge shared with the council that the difference between Prayer Hymnals for Parishioners and Sheet Music was a wash, and that the Sheet Music allowed for greater flexibility in music selection.

1. Time & Talent

Cherie indicated that she had a significant number of Time & Talent updates on the computer, but not all of the information on paper has been transferred to the computer.

One council member suggested that we need to get this completed so that parishioners who had noted an interest would be invited to serve the church community. If a parishioner signs up and then is not called it sends a message of their not needed.

This led to a discussion of Parish Soft and the difficult process involved. Steve was going to check into using an Excel Spreadsheet, Google Search or Qualtrix (I believe we would need to buy a license for this program that is used at Viterbo).

If anyone has a couple of hours to give, please contact Cherie to see what works to assist her with the input of Time & Talent.

Council members thought the program Mary Ellen uses for Readers, Greeters, etc. works well.

Since according to Cherie at least 90% of the Parishioner have email addresses on file we should be doing more information sharing using the available technology. A couple of parishioners indicated a willingness to assist parishioners with technology assistance after masses on Sunday.

1. Survey Parishioners - what would they like to see changed - Thanksgiving meal, others..?

This led to a discussion regarding the culture at Roncalli Newman. We have some parishioners who are outside a typical parish’s geographic area. There has been a revolving door of priests for some years which does not lend itself to culture building. All agreed it is something that we need to work on. Father Dodge is in agreement and is toying with different ideas to help build the community atmosphere at Newman.

1. Should we return to Monthly Meetings?

I believe Father Dodge will let us know about this; our next meeting will be the First Tuesday of August 7th.

1. FOCUS Group? Terry Bell

There are presently four members of the FOCUS group – Terry, Nick, Amanda, and Claire. They do two main things; Build Relationships & Form Bible Studies.

It is up to Campus Ministry to put on activities at the Newman Center - dinners, games, retreats, etcs.

There is a national network of FOCUS; they have a national conference to build leadership skills. Each January FOCUS puts on a national conference. It alternates between the Student Leader Summit (SLS) which is to equip students to evangelize their peers and the SEEK Conference which is open to anyone no matter where they are on their faith journey.

1. Parishioners Email addresses?

Cherie had indicated that at least 90% of the parishioners had an email address on file and it could be as high as 95%.

16) Father Dodge, Steve, and Jim will combine to pull together our August meeting agenda.