

## OUR LADY OF HOPE PASTORAL COUNCIL minutes for April 14, 2021

**Present:** Fr. Paul Sullivan, SJ, Dermot Bostock, Kathy Eliscu, Bill Burke, Estelle Lavoie, Elizabeth Manning, Mary Cafazzo, Mary Ellen White, Bill Slavick, Fr. Kevin Hughes, SJ

- 1) **Opening Prayer & Spiritual reading** - Estelle read the Reading Fr. Paul had submitted to all the PC Members – Acts 6:1-7. PC Members shared their reflections of the reading.
- 2) **Minutes:** March minutes – OK
- 3) **Finished Survey Document:** Dermot acknowledged & thanked Elizabeth for all the hard work she put into organizing, compiling and putting into a report the survey results that were returned back to the Parish. Fr. Paul stated that the report was well put together. Members are asked to read the summary & reach out to those with questions or those wanting to be more involved.
- 4) **Meeting with Bishop Deeley:** Fr. Paul met with Bishop Deeley. Fr. Paul felt it was a very positive meeting. Bishop Deeley was happy with the direction the Parish is taking. Bishop Deeley was very positive about how St. Bridget School had increased its numbers. We need to do more out-reach in order to increase our numbers both at the school & Parish. Msgr. Caron will help us to use Chancery staff to look at cutting cost for our Parish and what might this outreach look like. The Bishop felt that it was not practical for St. Brigid to use the church for more school functions as a school. Bishop suggested we go ahead with our central mission plan to reach out for new parishioners.  
  
The Diocesan School Board was interested in how we have restructured our financial support to the school. The Superintendent of Schools & School Board are working on revamping the financial support from Parishes to the Schools. Bill Burke did state that the school let the Parish reduce the subsidy to the school by about ½ for this year.  
  
Staffing – Need more staffing to manage new programs that are needed to gain the families and younger generation into the Parish. This staff would in addition from the existing Parish Staff, develop & organize these programs needed. Bishop Deeley did agree that we need more staff.
- 5) **Parish Birthday Picnic in late summer or early fall:** This is the tenth year for Our Lady Of Hope Parish. What ideas do we have to celebrate this event? Events Committee thought maybe a slide show. Maybe interview the folks who were instrumental in helping O.L.O.H. come into existence. Date would be around late August, mid-September for a Birthday party. If anyone is interested in helping with the slide show, contact Mary who will be the liaison for the Events Committee. Other suggestions for the picnic were – a small booth like an ice cream booth or another type of booth.

- 6) Ideas for Ignatian Year Celebrations:** Time frame is May 1, 2021 thru July 2022. Thoughts by Bill Burke – tie it to the Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Jesuits; presentations of what the Ignatius exercises are; Caring for our Common Home – recognizing & honoring those working for the environment; Journey with the Youth – recognizing & honoring those who work with the Youth; Walking with the excluded – recognizing & honoring members of our community who walk with those on the margins. Use the Live Stream we have at St. Pius X to do these presentations. A kick off event is already planned for May 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM. All the Jesuits with Our Lady Of Hope will speak about what part of the Ignatian Vision is important to them. (This will be announced in the bulletin). Another thought – maybe a music concert with the Jesuits on the music composed by Jesuits in the Hymnals we use. The Jesuit Provincial will be here in Sept for a few days. Maybe he can give a talk on the Jesuit educational system.
- 7) Parish Ministry Convocation:** Enriching the programs we already have. Question for the leaders of the different ministries – What would your ideal ministry look like? What do you need to get there? Date for this Convocation event would be late September but before Columbus Day, October 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 8) Up Coming Events:** Three events for Council members to talk about to other parishioners to see who will be willing to help plan & work with these events are: 1) Parish Birthday Party; 2) Ideas for the Ignatian Year celebrations; 3) Ideas for the Convocation event.
- 9) Response to new Parish Council Members:** Fr. Paul has several names for the Parish Council. Need at least 3 new Council Members. Time line for this change – June, invite the new members to a meeting to meet all the present Council members. Rotating members will then rotate off following the June meeting. September will be the first meeting in the Fall with the new and existing Parish Council Members.

Fr. Paul has specifically asked the PC Members for ideas on how to make Pentecost Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> special. Suggested – Coffee after the Masses, between the 7 & 9 at St. Pius X and between the 8 & 10 @ St. Joseph. Need ideas for the Saturday 4:30PM Mass @ St. Pius X. What will happen and how do we make it work. Elizabeth Manning will help. Idea – while parents have coffee, the children can play basketball in the gym @ St. Joseph. Keep talking about ideas for these events among yourselves. If you have ideas for Pentecost, please let the office know.

Closing Prayer was led by Fr. Paul.

Next Pastoral Council meeting will be May 12, 2021

Respectably submitted,  
Linda McCormack, Parish Administrative Assistant