

St. Mary on the Hill Catholic Church
Pastoral Council
May 18, 2009
5:00 PM
Parish Hall

Members Present: Fr. Jerry, Steve Givens, Rhee Fincher, Eric McArdle, Lisa Murray, Harmony Prestifilippo, Deacon Ken Maleck, John Fisher, Rhonda Wallace, Alicia Ramage

Members absent: Deacon Al Sullivan, Jim Purcell, Mike Hamilton

Fr. Jerry opened the meeting at 5:02 PM with a reading from the Gospel, followed by reflection.

Minutes of the April 29, 2009 meeting were approved.

Proposal to develop **St. Mary on the Hill School Commission**: This would be like all other Commissions – focus on mission of parish and, in this case, its school – facilitating functioning of existing ministries.

- Fr. Jerry: Catholic schools are struggling in many locales, with some consolidating to become a regional Catholic school. This is good for survival, but results in loss of a parish-school identity. SMOTH has a model that emphasizes Catholic education, linked to the parish, which we would like to preserve
- Steve Givens, Eric McArdle, and Harmony Prestifilippo modified bylaws from another parish (with permission), which were presented for discussion. Discussion included:
 - Membership: Should principal and vice principal be members of Commission? After discussion, the Council reached the consensus that they should be ex-officio, non-voting members
 - Vision: Revise to reflect reporting to Pastoral Council, which is advisory to Pastor
 - PTO will fall under the school commission; should help define the role/responsibilities of the PTO
 - Alicia commented that major goal is how to allocate funds, but there is little guidance

Broader discussion of Commissions

- Eric said each Commission should have a mission and defined objectives relevant to its ministries. Part of the challenge of adding more structure is differing opinion about how much structure the ministries want
- Eric suggested changing the term facilitator to chair; unanimously endorsed
- Every commission should include a member of the Pastoral Council as a commission member (not necessarily chair)

- Pastoral Council for 2009-2010
 - Rhee Fincher – 2006; begin second 3-year term
 - John Fisher – 2006, Fr. Jerry asked John if he would like to recommit to another 3yr term, but John declined.
 - Volunteered to continue with Adult Faith Formation; Young Formation, or other activities
 - Mike Hamilton – 2007
 - Steve Givens – 2007
 - Harmony Prestifilippo – 2008
 - Jim Purcell – 2006; begin second 3-year term
 - Eric McArdle – 2006; begin third 3-year term; chair School Commission
 - Alicia Ramage – 2008
 - Rhonda Wallace – 2007
- Stewardship Commission
 - Rhee Fincher is rotating off as facilitator and member
 - Need to identify a new facilitator
 - Stewardship must be rooted on deep sense of gratitude
- Fr. Jerry will ask Melanie Bailey to update Commission list and circulate electronically to Pastoral Council members

Next pastoral focus: Gratitude

- After discussion, the Council unanimously endorsed recommendation.

Fr. Jerry asked for prayers for Renee and Vince Minardi as their granddaughter, Brittany, is now on life support.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhee Fincher
Recorder