

SMOTH Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Parish Hall, 5:00 PM
6/23/2014

Attendees: Katie Conner, Rhee Fincher, Ken Maleck, Jim Purcell, Fr. Jerry Ragan

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM and began with prayer.

Pastoral Council membership: Two new members will be invited to join the Council; many well-suited parishioners were discussed as potential members

Human Resource Issue: Jimmy Carrick needs some short-term assistance with a plethora of tasks. He will hire someone part-time and short-term

VBS + Rebuilt: The council discussed VBS in the context of *Rebuilt*. VBS has not been a vibrant, parish-supported activity in recent years with difficulty recruiting enough adults to supervise and teach. As a result, there are some concerns about the adult:student ratio. VBS seems to provide a consumer product for families rather than being clearly mission related. This year we switched to an evening family program in an effort to engage the entire family. In the future, consider transforming VBS into family faith formation, perhaps meeting one night/week in the summer rather than a 1-week daytime or evening program.

Continuation of Rebuilt Discussion: We need to define focus, leadership plan, expected outcomes – then prioritize and decide what we can do. SMOTH has many meaningful ministries, but does not have a focused parish plan for our engagement as a parish with our community and the world at large. Social justice was discussed as a focus for how our parish “is Christ in the big world”. Both lay and professional members of the parish community must be empowered and engaged to develop and implement such a plan.

Pastoral Focus for 2014 will continue to be Forming Families in Faith. Extending the current focus seems logical since the Synod will continue its focus on family this year and next and World Family Day will be meeting in Philadelphia in September.

School stewardship: Deacon Al has been functioning in his new parttime role with stewardship vs. tuition. He has identified several families that should, but are not, paying tuition. A legal letter will be sent to these families notifying them of their outstanding obligation.

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhee Fincher
Recorder