

**Pastoral Council Minutes
September 29, 2014**

Attendees: Jennifer Bovitz, Katie Conner, Rhee Fincher, Brendan Fisher, Martha Kearns, Deacon Ken Maleck, Amy Markwalter, Walt Moore, Jim Purcell, Fr. Jerry Ragan

Guest: Jimmy Carrick

Meeting called to order at 5:30 with prayer.

The minutes of the 8/18/2014 meeting were approved.

Follow up and information items – Fr. Jerry

- Pastoral Focus = Love is our Mission is based on knowledge that the foundation of faith formation is in the family; Synod begins at Vatican on 10/5/2014; world meeting of family 9/2015 (Philadelphia)
- Small Groups – Follow-up to *Rebuilt*; several groups are meeting on a regular basis, each with a unique focus. Fr. Jerry asked the Pastoral Council to consider a parish leadership group meeting a couple Sundays/month
- Confirmation will be November 3; expect Council to meet with bishop before the pre-confirmation dinner; consider what to tell him/discuss. Suggestions include:
 - Reaching out to Hispanic immigrants – how could a parish like SMOTH fit into this initiative in light of not many Hispanic immigrants?
 - BAA – still have not reached goal; struggled for last several years – concerns? Suggestions?
- School Carnival will be October 18; main fundraiser for PTO; popular auction
- Stewardship Renewal
 - October 11 – Deacon Don preaching
 - October 18 – Rob Johnson gives witness talk
 - October 25 – Stewardship Commitment Sunday; priest appreciation night at gym; Fr. Jerry preaches at all Masses

Facilities Report - Setting priorities – Jimmy Carrick

- Repair ceilings in Narthex and Day Chapel; will be done at night to minimize disruption; color will be the same for both
- Repair overhead lighting harnesses and clean globes on hanging fixtures in church; replace floodlights on overhead beams
- Remove 4 trees in front of church and run electrical lines to each location (low voltage lighting). Fill concrete openings with brick pavers and place terracotta or limestone pots with recommended tree/bush to complement front of church with up-lighting for nighttime appearance; Jimmy has consulted with Sid Mullis (county extension service) regarding plant choices
- 2504 McDowell St.: Prepare for possible occupancy (by whom not finalized); repair bathroom and kitchen; paint interior walls; clean floors
- Annunciation House: Complete some cost-effective repairs while decisions made about how much to invest in renovation; asbestos in basement will be assessed by an appropriate person to determine if it currently presents a danger and provide an estimate on removal; sequentially,

need to determine what house would be used for to determine if major renovation is warranted; currently used for young adults, youth, and inter-faith hospitality

- Columbarium: May be enough room between parish hall and church; on wall above ground; St. Teresa's is now building one; need is increasing as about 40% of SMOTH funerals involve cremated remains

Setting up an Endowment Fund – Jim Purcell

- What should the purpose of the endowment be?
 - Capital vs non-capital
 - Opportunity to apply for funds?
 - Other – will be topic of discussion at upcoming Pastoral Council meeting
- Church endowment fund
 - Background: Funding for endowment will come from collateral in school bond account (\$3-4M) which was initially set up to secure payment of bonds; when this investment again becomes available to the parish, there should be a plan regarding use; initial funding came from general giving of parish, not specifically for SMS. Tithe should ensure day-to-day expenses of running the church; bond fund should be used for initiatives beyond foundational expenses.
 - Next step: Develop a document that defines the endowment – which needs to include the purpose. The diocese has a template for how to establish an endowment, which we should follow
- Current SMS endowment – now >\$1M; use 4-5% annually based on recommendations by principal (e.g., IT upgrades, telephone system, teacher continuing education)

Next meeting of Pastoral Council: Monday, October 20

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 6:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhee Fincher, Recorder