

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2017

1. Prayer and Attendance

Rob called to order the regular meeting of the Pastoral Council at 7:25pm on January 12, 2017 at Canadian Martyrs Parish.

The following persons were present: Pierre Beemans, Dorothy Wood, Fr. Jim Fiori, Margaret Moriarty, Heather Duggan, Sheila Foy-Connolly, Scott Rufolo, Bob Gorman, Jane Staples, Rosemarie Hoey, Alex Amato, David Gilmour, Rob Criger

Absent: Anthony Carty

2. Approval of agenda

Rosemarie moved that the agenda be approved. Bob seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

3. Minutes from Dec. 2, 2016 – The minutes of December 2, 2016 were accepted electronically and sent to the Finance Committee.

4. Business Arising

4.1. Parish Refugee Sponsorship Committee – (all information from this discussion is confidential)

Report from David Gilmour: The sponsored family moved into the townhouse on Cummings Ave. before Christmas. It is better suited to their needs with 2 bathrooms, more bedrooms and a washer and dryer. Fr. Jim has signed the lease as the family has no credit history or income. The family will be subletting the townhouse from the parish for \$700.00 a month. They will not be getting the monthly stipend from the church after February and this will be replaced by social assistance. The church can gift money to the children without affecting the family's social assistance.

The sponsored couple is looking for a new apartment for March. The apartment that they are in is rent sheltered and will be too expensive for them after February. They have found an apartment that they like in Vanier and may rent it. The church will need to sign the lease. They will apply for social assistance at the end of February. The wife is working part-time and the husband is currently looking for work.

Jocelyn Caloz is helping the families apply for social assistance and disability.

The Pastoral Council would like to express their gratitude for the Sponsorship Committee's work with the families. This was approved by Rob and Rosemarie to appear in the minutes.

Request for Sponsorship: Employee at Springhurst who is seeking support and funding to bring his friend from Africa to Ottawa has been informed that we will not be able to help at this time. Fr. Jim talked with Julie at CCI and it was explained that we would not be able to sponsor a refugee for three years as it seems that there is a quota for Catholic Immigration.

4.2. Parish Survey: Dorothy and Pierre

Objectives from the pastoral plan will be included in the survey. Parishioners will be asked how the parish can achieve these objectives. It is hoped that the survey results will help in updating the pastoral plan. The survey will let PPC know what to focus on and give feedback.

We will edit/remove the question asking about youth/young families. A more general question will be developed concentrating on the objectives from the Pastoral Plan (e.g. what should we as a parish be prioritizing?).

4.3. Update on Pastoral Plan Priorities

Gathering Space: Coffee has been moved into the parish centre. It is working well. Will seek some feedback from the deaf community and will meet with the hospitality committee.

Old Ottawa East Outreach: Fr. Jim and Jane met with the Anglican pastor at Ascension. The meeting went well and it was nice to break the ice. The pastor suggested we participate in their Messy Church activity for families.

Leaflet and Brochure: The current brochure for the church needs to be updated as it contains information that is no longer correct. An insert for the brochure needs to be created and produced. Pierre and Alex are working on this. Printing could be done in house.

Formation Sessions: Jane is exploring some type of formation for lectors, eucharistic ministers, and the music ministry.

Mass Coordinators: A few people have come forward to volunteer for this position.

Action Item: Jane will schedule a training session.

Integrated Liturgy Prep: We are still looking for a coordinator for the lectors and a representative from the prayers of the faithful for the Liturgy Committee.

Action Item: Find volunteers

4.4. Ministry Fair

The Liturgy Committee does not think that a Ministry Fair is the way to recruit volunteers. They suggest we arrange a table with a chart and ministry descriptors that will be available on an on-going basis.

Action Item: To be discussed at the next Liturgy Committee meeting.

4.5. Pre-Lenten Event

PPC will host a pancake breakfast on Feb. 26th after mass. The planners will be Alex, Pierre, and Scott. We will invite the deaf community.

Action Item: The planners will let us know what is needed at the February PPC meeting and will talk with Brenda and Allan about the best and most efficient use of the space.

4.6. Constitution

This sub-committee met in December. They will revise and update the constitution and have identified areas that need editing. Each person has taken one or more areas to work on.

Action Item: Constitution sub-committee will meet in February to review the revised parts of the constitution.

4.7. Week of Prayer

The parish had no time to arrange anything for this year. We hope that the neighbouring churches in the area will get together for a joint event later in 2017. Fr. Jim and Jane met with the Anglican pastor and are intending to meet other pastors of the neighbouring churches.

Action Item: The local service for this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be included in the bulletin.

4.8. Doors Open Ottawa

This event is on the weekend of June3-4/2017. The city provides signage and maps for this event. The times for the event are from 10am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday. It is strongly suggested that the venue be open on both days. Our Sunday mass and that of the deaf community would have to be taken into consideration. Bilingual brochures, volunteers for the day are required. It would help recognize that it is the 200th anniversary of the Oblates. However, the church may not be chosen to be included.

Action Item: Alex will submit an application for the church before the March 4th deadline.

4.9. Pictorial Directory:

Action Item: Heather will contact the Communications Committee.

5. New Business

5.1. Pastoral Plan Update:

Action Item: At the next PPC meeting, discuss whether the pastoral plan and parish council year should follow the same fiscal year as the budget set by the Finance Committee: Jan-Dec., instead of Sept – June.

5.2. Charitable Donations

The money that is collected from the poor box and the ‘Poor and Needy’ Envelopes is given to a list of charities that the parish has given to for years. The Finance Council has recommended that the PPC take on the task of deciding what charities to give to.

We have been giving to: St. Joe’s Supper Table (\$500), St. Brigid’s Camp (\$350), Shepherds of Good Hope (\$500), Centretown Churches (\$750), St. Vincent de Paul (\$250), Miriam Centre (\$300), Youville Centre (\$300), Centretown Emergency Food Centre (\$750), and Carty House (\$500).

Action Item: PPC will put this item on a future agenda.

5.3. Kateri Native Ministries

Kateri participated in our feast of Canadian Martyrs and a group of parishioners attended their monthly mass in November. They are looking for a new home for their monthly mass. Fr. Jim suggests that they be invited to use our church. He has spoken to the Oblate Provincial and he has no problem with it. They could participate in our mass once a month, or we could negotiate a time once a month for them to use the church. Approximately 50 people attend their mass.

Proposal: Are we in favour of offering Kateri Native Ministries an invitation to use the church? All were in agreement that we should.

Action Item: Fr. Jim will contact Kateri.

6. For Your Information

The Lenten Fair will probably take place on the third Sunday in February.

Vince Marsh will present the budget in March.

Rosemarie still needs photos from PC members for the ministry bulletin board.

7. Communications:

8. Next meeting: February 2, 2017 at 7:15pm

9. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30.