

# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI FAITH FORMATION COUNCIL MINUTES

April 19, 2018

Meeting began at 6:30 pm and ended at 8:54 pm.

Council Members in Attendance: Maureen Berger Jason Collins, Dave Dickson, Linda Gust, Steve Hedding, Molly Myers, Mary Wieser, Alison Zirbel (partial)

Also Present: Fr. Ray McHenry (partial), Christen Cota (partial), Rick Schraeger (Pastoral Council Liaison) Faye Akers (partial), Becca Bahl (partial)

Council Members Absent: none

I. Call to Order by Jason Collins

II. Opening Prayer

III. Open Forum – Becca Bahl reported on Christian Family Movement (CFM). She shared that this has been a limbo year. Most groups are not doing the CFM books and because of that CFM contacted Joe & Kelly Koenigs. They asked the Bahl family to help. These two couples are trying to figure out if CFM is the correct title. They are wondering if it should be called something different. They will start a survey in May to decide what will happen going forward. They may need boundaries if they call it Family Faith Sharing groups. There are currently 85 couples enrolled, but who CFM is serving and a title are the questions.

IV. Approval of Agenda: Mary asked if we could have a Pastoral Council Report for Rick. Mary asked if we look at prayer time in the meetings and requested we add that to New Business. Mary asked if we could see job descriptions, evaluations and budgets. Motion to approve revised Agenda – Linda Gust, Second – Molly Myers. Passed: Unanimous.

V. Approval of Prior Meetings' Minutes: Motion to approve February Minutes – Steve Hedding, Second – Linda Gust. Passed: Unanimous.

VI. Pastoral Report

- A. Council report given by Rick Schraeger – departments are over budgets and they report back to Pastoral Council in May. They are \$47,000 over. There is talk about the school and whether or not it's full. It was reported that people call in the office and hear it's full, but the teachers say there are openings. Rick asked about the decline in attendance numbers in FISH and YFF. Can Deb explain?
- B. Pastoral Report given by Fr. Ray – Sam Martin, the Communications Coordinator has resigned. They are working on a replacement. Chris Aldinger has started and is working on job descriptions, roles and meeting with various people. The Annual Diocesan Appeal for this year is \$334,000. We are 50% to goal. He will be giving a pulpit appeal in a couple weeks. Fr. Andrew has received his assignment. He will be going to St. Mary's in Elkhart. Fr.

Trevor Chocine is finishing his studies in Rome before he comes to St. Francis as our new Associate Pastor on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

## VII. Staff Reports

- A. Director of Youth Faith Formation report given by Christen Cota
  - a. Online registration has been well received by parishioners and staff. The registrations received to date are far higher than they have been in the past at this point in time.
  - b. Christen has met with Chris Aldinger and shared with him the desire for organizational chart, clearly defined job descriptions and better communications.
- B. In Deb's absence, there was not a verbal High School Faith Formation report or discussion.
- C. Director of Adult Faith Formation report given by Faye Akers
  - a. Written report mentions desire for having one person responsible for all print and digital communications so that we have a consistent message across all channels. Question was raised about where that request stands from a Parish Staff or Pastoral Council level. There is no answer to that at this time.
  - b. Written report mentions sharing Q4 Adult Faith rocks and communications/promotions needs with Sheila Timmerman and Sam Martin. Question was raised about where it goes from there? Answer is that it's just to communicate within the staff.
  - c. Question raised about where the website progress stands. Answer unknown.

## VIII. New Business

- A. Suggestion was made to limit time spent on prayer during the meeting. Discussion ensued where several Council members shared that they would like to make sure we are leaving enough time for Council business, so should we lengthen the meetings or shorten the prayer?
- B. Suggestion was made to read and discuss Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation "Rejoice and Be Glad". For next month, read Chapter 1, paragraphs 1-34 and be prepared to discuss how it relates to the Faith Formation Council.

## IX. Old Business

- A. Assessment Sub Committee Report – distributed survey results and reported on findings. Suggested a working session for the Council members to delve deeper into the results and plan next steps.
- B. Communication between Councils – not discussed

C. Space for FISH (Fellowship in Spirit with Him) – not discussed

D. Intentional Planning – setting up a subcommittee to begin work on intentional planning for Faith Formation. – not discussed

X. Concluding Comments: The May meeting will be a working session for the Council members. Agenda will be suspended and staff need not attend.

XI. Closing Prayer

XII. UPCOMING DATES: Next Meeting – Working Session May 17, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Minutes submitted by Alison Zirbel