

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI FAITH FORMATION COUNCIL MINUTES

September 20, 2018

Council Members in Attendance: David Dickson, Linda Gust, Steve Hedding, Molly Myers, Mary Wieser, Alison Zirbel

Also Present: Fr. Ray McHenry, Faye Akers, Deb Barry, Rick Schraeger (pastoral council liaison)

Council Members Absent: Maureen Berger, Jason Collins

Others Absent: Christen Cota

I. Call to Order at 6:34 by Steve Hedding (vice-chairperson acting as chairperson in Jason's absence)

II. Opening Prayer was led by Steve Hedding

III. Open Forum – John Gaffney from Diocese of Des Moines Department of Evangelization and Catechesis presented on the Faith Formation Council Principles and Diocesan Collaboration. Key points: focus on evangelization, recognize how we are different than other Councils, stay focused on principles and guidelines, plan and assess the faith formation ministry of the parish, communicate that vision to the Staff and other committees as appropriate, answer the questions “how can we bring people to _____ (ie: a certain ministry)?, how are the parishioners hearing their need to live out their baptismal call?” David asked what the crossover is between visioning and programming. Answer ~ recognize the opportunities to be a part of that witness, decide the direction we want to go with the Parish, communicate that accordingly, then the programming is what makes it happen via appropriate ministries at the Parish. We as a Council come back together to evaluate and look for evidence that it is indeed happening.

IV. Approval of Agenda – Molly moved to approve, David seconded, motion passed

V. Approval of Prior Meetings' Minutes – Linda moved to approve, Molly seconded, motion passed

VI. Pastoral Report – Fr. Ray reported that the office remodeling project is complete, hiring is done, ADA appeal last weekend brought in an additional \$20,000. The results for the survey have been handed over to appropriate departments where it does not pertain to Faith Formation (ie: Building and Grounds, Liturgy, Board of Education). It is up to those departments to decide what to do with the results. Rick suggested that we communicate to the Parish what is being done as a result of the survey via bulletin, social media, etc. CRHP had enough men sign up to continue the program for now, so the Men's CRHP weekend is a go. Was mentioned that this program might need to be looked at. Someone from FFC to attend the next CRHP Continuation Committee Meeting.

VII. Staff Reports

- A. Christen absent, YFF: decided not to discuss this report in Christen's absence. Will revisit at next meeting.
- B. Deb, HSFF: no discussion
- C. Faye, AFF: Asked our Council to look at options for Advent hand-outs and weigh in. In the past, the Staff has decided the Liturgical Theme for the year, but based on the presentation by John Gaffney, it sounds like something FFC should be deciding in the future. It should be added to our Planning Calendar for December (Lent) and September (Advent). Faye has other planning calendar additions for us that the Advisory Team will look at and present at the next meeting. FORMED will come up for renewal in January. AFF Advisory Team will look at it for recommendation, but discussion involved idea of keeping it for at least one more year before considering a change. Coffee and Donuts has asked our Council to be in charge of December 2nd. Linda motioned, Dave seconded, motion passed.

VIII. New Business

- A. Council Members' Subcommittee Assignments – Adult Faith Formation Advisory Team will be Alison, Dave, Linda and Mary. Fellowship and Service Committee will be Jason and Maureen. Retreats and Missions Committee will be Steve and Molly. Will have to see how this plays out, but could be that the Fellowship/Service and Retreats/Missions committees are temporary. They come up with a vision for those categories based on the survey results and then it is taken to the appropriate ministry of the Parish to be implemented. The Adult Faith Formation Advisory Team is intended to be ongoing.
- B. Subcommittee To-Do List - Before the next meeting the subcommittees will gather and at the next meeting each committee will report back on their vision and action items.
- C. Meeting Time Discussion – with discerned input from Father Ray and Faye, the decision was made to keep the meeting time as-is at 6:30 on the third Thursday of each month.

IX. Old Business

- A. Second Reading and voting upon of revised Bylaws ~ Mary motioned, Molly seconded, Discussion regarding Article 4, Section F ~ it doesn't exclude discussion and input, just means the Chairperson is the person to carry through with decision. Motion passes.
- B. FFC Planning Calendar- Faye has items to add. Will add to the AFF Advisory Team to do list and report at next meeting. Secretary will be the keeper and updater of the Planning Calendar.

X. Executive Session ~ Linda motions, Molly seconds, motion passes

Concluding Comments –

- A. Father must designate someone as his pastoral representative at the meetings he will miss. He has designated Steve Hedding in his absence at the October meeting.

XI. Closing Prayer

XII. UPCOMING DATES: Next Meeting –October 18, 2018

XII. Adjournment motion by Linda, seconded by David, motion passed at 8:39 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Alison Zirbel