

St. Sebastian Parish Pastoral Council Regular Meeting

Regular Meeting – 23 July 2015

IN ATTENDANCE: Father John Valencheck, Pastor
Candace Bates, Vice-Chair
Patricia Clark-Varga, Member
Kathy Dietrich, Member
Bob Rybka, Member

Todd Dekatch, Chair
Cyndy Cook, Secretary
Jim Dietrich, Member
Kay Leckrone, Member
Chris Peters, Member

Call to Order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Chair, Todd Dekatch

Opening Prayer: Todd Dekatch (on marking transitions)

Pastor's Report by Father Valencheck:

- Budget approved with an anticipated enrollment of 365 students, slightly lower than the optimal enrollment.
- This number may reflect that demographically, there has been a decrease by 2% in children in the parish even though membership in the parish has increased by 100 households over 1962 levels.
- Monday, July 28, Bishop Gries will come to St. Sebastian to sign letters of incorporation for the Saint Julie Billiard School of Saint Sebastian Parish.
- The proposed logo and letterhead for the Saint Julie Billiard School was circulated for review
- Brick parking lot renovation still underway, and is so far still right on or ahead of schedule and under-budget which might permit new roofs for the junior high and elementary school.
- Positive response including some supportive letters in response to the letter soliciting more funds to make up for the shortfall in collections over the winter.
- Jazz Festival coming up on July 30, 2015.
- Father Valencheck requested that PPC send a letter of welcome to Father Dennis McNeil, the new Pastor at neighboring St. Vincent Parish.
- The feasibility of maple syrup production as a community outreach activity was discussed.
- Dedication of the new brick parking lot will take place on Saturday, August 15th.

Old Business:

- Parish Council minutes from the meeting of July 2, 2015 passed as amended.

New Business:

- Chair Todd Dekatch welcomed new members Bob Rybka, Chris Peters, Kathy Dietrich, and Kay Leckrone. Brief introductions were made.
- Todd passed out copies of the current PPC roster, council by-laws and briefly discussed the mission of the council as well as the duties of PPC members.

- Todd discussed the development of new safety procedures he hopes to see adopted in the event of any acts of violence or aggression which may occur at St. Sebastian.
- Currently, an active shooter plan is being developed by Todd Dekatch, Dan Pillitiere and Brandon Foster (all of whom are members of law enforcement), who have formed a safety committee at the Parish.
- The safety committee hopes to establish training between ushers and law enforcement officers who may be present at St. Sebastian in the event of an incident.
- Co-ordination between St. Sebastian and the Diocese of Cleveland may be needed in the event that a Diocesan protocol is already in place.
- New commission representatives were named for the different ministries
- Candy Bates volunteered to keep the parish commission contact list updated,
- An article about Parish Council will be featured in the August 2nd Bulletin.
- Ro Reed, the head of the new Welcoming Committee has expressed an interest in addressing PPC, perhaps at the next meeting in August.
- It would be beneficial for Ro Reed to meet with Michelle Huber in order to devise a plan of promoting the Welcoming Committee and increasing awareness of it within the Parish.
- Michelle Huber will address PPC at the next meeting in August.
- Opening Prayer for the August meeting will be led by Bob Rybka.
- Closing Prayer for the August meeting will be led by Kay Leckrone.

Pulse of the Parish:

- Former PPC member Dick Spangler has again offered the use of his apartment building's party room for the PPC Christmas meeting.
- Parishioners have expressed concern about the amount of talking inside church before Mass when people are attempting to pray.
- Several parishioners have mentioned inappropriate Mass attire
- Kay suggested that ushers be mindful of attire when they choose a family for the Offertory and that the importance of respectful Mass attire could be reinforced through the ministries

Closing Prayer: Patricia Clark-Varga