

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 18, 2015

West Room

Attendees: Father Joe Marina, S.J.; Jack Schmitt (Chair); Kathleen Cagnina, Patricia Dahl, Phil Gutierrez, Bob Lepisko, Debbi Olley Murphy, Adel O'Regan

Members Absent: Stephen Alfieri, David Pais

1. Prayer: Patricia Dahl (Thomas Merton's *Prayer for Discernment*)
2. Pastor's Report
 - This past weekend was a celebratory one: The AIDS Walk will meet its fundraising goal of \$30,000 ("30 for 30" was the slogan, \$30,000 for 30 years). There were also confirmations, a wedding, and a blessing and gathering for the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who will be moving to the Bronx.
 - Our next parish coffee hour likely will be held in early September; the Pastoral Council will ask Xavier ministries for a sponsor.
 - Father Joe had a productive meeting with Jack Raslowsky, president of Xavier High School. Jack was open to more collaboration between the parish and school, specifically in terms of space needs. The high school is building a new conference room, and Father Joe will address the possibility of moving Pastoral Council and Finance Council meetings to the high school to free up even more space in the church for Xavier's ministries.
 - The rector of the Jesuit community, Jim Croghan, S.J., has also reached out to Father Joe to discuss possible collaboration centering on the upcoming papal encyclical.
 - The drawing to name the shelter program for Ned Coughlin, S.J., is proceeding apace, and is scheduled for June 28. Tickets will be \$20, with the goal of raising \$20,000. Half of that money will be split between the parish and shelter, and the other half will be divided into six gifts for participants. While the drawing will take place on June 28, there will be a special celebration of the naming at the Mission Mass in the fall.
 - Ed Quinnan, S.J., a representative of the Northeast Province, will attend the Pastoral Council meeting in June to address the results of his discussions with various parish leaders and staff.
 - Work will begin during the last week of June on capital projects for the church, including carpeting, windows and water fountains. Other possible capital improvements were also discussed.
 - Xavier held its successful Gathering of Ministries on Monday, May 11, with all parish ministries presenting highlights, goals, and opportunities for collaboration. The Council looks forward to encouraging even greater collaboration between the ministries. Also, now that the India Group is a 501(c)(3), the Council discussed its openness to the parish making space available for the group with advance notice.

- With the Jubilee of Mercy, starting in December, as well as the upcoming papal encyclical on the environment, Father Joe asked the Council to be aware of new opportunities for Xavier and to bring those ideas forward: how can we emphasize and celebrate these two events?
3. Pastoral Council schedule
 - The Pastoral Council is scheduling its annual retreat to ensure that all members can be present. There will also be a report by the Finance Council at the June 15 meeting.
 4. Discernment and Selection of Vice Chair
 - Because of scheduling conflicts, the Pastoral Council will convene at a special meeting on Monday, June 22 to discern and select a Vice Chair.
 5. Discernment for Chair
 - After Pastoral Council members took some time to discuss the process, the current Chair, Jack Schmitt, stated his view of the role of the Parish Council. He is committed to focusing on the four main priorities of the Council (Ignatian Spirituality, Ambassadors, Jesuit Collaboration, and Liturgical Ministries). Jack expressed his personal passion for the parish, and stated that he would be pleased to continue in his current role. Pastoral Council members spoke about whether they would like to be considered, and the Chair will be selected at the July Council meeting.
 6. Timing of Selection of New Council Member
 - After discussion, the Council reached a consensus and plan to begin the discernment process for a candidate to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of Jackie Perez in April 2016. The Pastoral Council will remain at nine members until that time, which is also when two members, Patricia Dahl and Phil Gutierrez will rotate off.
 7. Announcements and New Items
 - Pastoral Council member Kathleen Cagnina raised the issue of making sure that Ignatian spirituality is accessible to all members of the parish, without the time constraints of the 19th annotation. Father Joe mentioned that he will be going to Holy Trinity parish in Georgetown this coming week to discuss this very issue, and will return with possible suggestions for Xavier.
 8. Closing prayer: Patricia Dahl (*Fall in Love*, Pedro Arrupe, S.J.)