

# Saint Patrick Pastoral Council Minutes

## April 17, 2018

**Present:** Fr. Danso, Dave Mann, Liz Lyons, Stacie Denning, Katie Ausdemore, Jenny Hall, Margie Petersen and church secretary RaeShelle Jensen

**Not Present:** Linda Minahan

**Fr. Danso led a prayer before start of meeting**

**Review of March 2018 Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes was made by Stacie and seconded by Jenny, all were in favor.

**Technology Update** - tabled until May meeting per RaeShelle:

1. Midwest Sound: Bid was handed out at last meeting
2. Diversified Design: Sent email March 16th and no response yet (RaeShelle not sure if they'll come for a meeting or not?)
3. AVI: He will get us a new bid for the church by next Monday

**Adult Bible Study** - John Gaffney & Justin White from the Diocese:

1. Both gentlemen brought informational handouts that were distributed to the Council to review: Well Respected Catholic AFF Resources, Things to Consider about Adult Ministry, Adult Faith Formation Needs to Focus on Brokenness, Toward Effective Adult Faith Formation, Information & cost (annual cost for a parish subscription of \$1,770) FORMED
2. John was the first speaker, he started by saying: A parish needs to spend money on Adult Formation, BUT, needs the best tool for each parish and the goal is to make Jesus present!
3. A Parish is a geographic boundary and as a Parish, we are responsible for getting the word out to the people & gave us a few of the following idea's:
  - a. Place a parenting article in the Gazette for one of the Pastoral Council members to write
  - b. Break open the word by having Adult Formation
  - c. Need somewhere for people to be allowed to share their Faith and Experiences
  - d. Flexibility for people's schedules
  - e. What are the needs of our community
  - f. A great start would be to use the Parables of Mercy and he can give us information on the free resources from the Diocese
4. Justin spoke next mainly about the grid on the book "A Church on the Move". He said, all too often, youth & young adults are seen as the "future", which makes it too easy to put their needs off until later. He has used this book to distill some suggestions that he believes are most relevant to helping young adults grow in their lives with Christ.
  - a. Topic's - How does your Parish think? - How does your Parish function? - How does your Parish worship? - How does our Parish form Disciples? and How does your Parish engage the World?
  - b. Go door to door to ask people to come to church or to pray for them if they like - offer spirituality
  - c. This book that Justin is getting info from explores various ways in which our parishes (without being completely overhauled or restarted) can meet the community needs.
5. John then spoke on Things to Consider about Adult Ministry and Well Respected Catholic AFF Resources:

- a. He said, we can reach out to parishioners who mainly come to Mass at Easter & Christmas by forming an organization that would send out notes to these people asking what we can do for them.
  - b. Also, still a good idea to put an article in the Gazette, such as parenting tips or a Mom's blog from St. Patricks in Neola that would nurture their faith
  - c. Another idea is to send out prayers to farmers and their families in the bulletin during planting and harvest seasons to show their Parish cares
  - d. Send a gift to an expectant family
  - e. People usually quit coming to church because they simply get out of the habit of attending
  - f. Justin said, they did a Learning Mass for the youth and reconnected people after Mass - was very helpful
6. Jenny asked about the 35 to 50 year old men - how do we connect with them? She said, that Omaha Parishes have a Men's Organization to get them involved. Per John, male spirituality is very low now, but not as low as Europe.
  7. RaeShelle asked John, which of the Well Respected Catholic AFF Resources would be best for our Parish, because the Finance Council will probably only approve one? John said, FORMED has the most variety for all ages
  8. John and Justin closed the discussion on Adult Bible Study with Questions and Answers:
    - a. Jenny started Symbolon and thinks why few participated is due mainly to our old equipment & with new equipment she believes more people will participate, especially if personally called
    - b. John thought what would be helpful is to have core people involved with Symbolon, Word on Fire or Renew, have an evening discussion in their homes, telling a walk thru process of the programs.
    - c. Leading up to this 4 weeks prior, have parishioners share their faith and experience with others during Mass - he said, sell the fact that it is freeing to yourself to share with others.
    - d. The men brought up that people who go away from the Catholic Church still want to be buried as a Catholic. This is the Holy Spirit coming thru to them. "You have to loose Life to gain your Life".
    - e. We love people thru their brokenness and it renews our own faith
    - f. Jenny had an idea that we should use a variety and bring in speakers, also and maybe some parishioners would gift this and maybe FORMED
    - g. For people that don't have allot of extra time, it would really be nice to watch a video on FORMED and be able to do this in their own homes and feel involved in their faith.
    - h. Liz thinks a parent should stand up in church and give testimony on how Adult Bible Study has changed their family for the better.
    - i. Dave said, but our problem still is many only come for Holiday Masses or come each week, but don't get involved - we need to focus on these parishioners.

**Gift for Sherry Dofner** - need to sign card: Jenny picked up a cutting board and booklet at Cosgraves & was also, given a \$50 gift certificate - card signed at meeting by Pastoral Council

**Tim Spiker:** He isn't ready to present to the committee yet. Tabled until May meeting

#### **Where do you fit in?**

1. This will be tabled until May meeting
2. RaeShelle did make a list up titled - How would you like to serve? We need you!
3. Council is to think of anymore ideas that they would like to see listed on this sheet and bring ideas to May meeting

**Pastoral Member Change:**

1. Linda Minahan has stepped down as a member
2. Margie Petersen will be off in September - RaeShelle to bring a list of fellow parishioners that we listed a few months ago as replacement members & will bring to the May meeting to be discussed
3. These positions should try to be filled before September, but preferably in the next few months.

**No additions to agenda this month added due to Guest Speakers present and time**

**Motion to adjourn** the meeting was made by Katie and seconded by Liz and all in favor of ending meeting.

**Next meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2018, 7:00pm**

**Meeting was closed**

**Respectfully submitted by Margie Petersen - Pastoral Council Secretary**