

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
Annunciation, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, St. Stephen
Meeting Minutes

Date: 09-01-2020

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Virtual by Zoom

People present:

<input type="checkbox"/> Adam Vonderahe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candice Koopmeiners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol Hellmann
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chuck Spychala	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fr. Ron Weyrens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fr. Tom Knoblach
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Rajkowski	<input type="checkbox"/> Jean Bemboom	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Brunn
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joan Krause	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Kresky	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard Popp
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shirley Scapanski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stef Rothstein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fr. Ron Weyrens

A.7:05pm Welcome and opening prayer by Stephanie.

B.Review 8.04.20 Minutes: please read & comment:

Danna – rep from St. Stephen under “Young Adults” instead of Deacon Joe.

Minutes reviewed and supported

C. Plan (updates & action items):

Ca. Stewardship

Leonard, Joan, & Fr. Tom met yesterday. Reviewed action steps, looked at survey, opinions, and financials.

Making sure we are counting the same thing (2%)

Education is the next major step. Getting someone to represent every parish.

Plan on using the already set up Stewardship committees from Sartell and Sacred Heart and adding to them. Gather these people together before October 1st.

Fr. Tom said he was having Joe Spaniol get the end of the year reports from all the parishes (I believe for the past 5 years) to get a common baseline numbers to start with.

Asking Leonard his thoughts – Beginning perceptions. He had already listened to one of the videos. Was impressed by the items the committee put together.

Question after we identify the committee how do we keep them informed and what is the process to keep them engaged?

See Action Steps. Right now is not a good time to do a survey during the pandemic. Financial is a small part of this, but is easiest to track!

Time and Talent: St. Francis needs to add their information. This is another piece of the puzzle. Each parish counts their own to get a baseline.

How do we connect with people? See Videos.

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Ca Cont...

Stef – What is the commitment? What are we asking of people with each group?

Joan – Stef should send out the link to the 3 day – Stewardship videos.

Leonard – Once someone commits to sub committee – how do we keep them in the loop and what is their starting point and the next steps?

Stef – Starting a contact list. Who belongs to what sub committee? Hickup was getting out info but it wasn't mastered completely.

Joan – One we had an email and contact info of subcommittee we would send out info and a Thank you, and share what times would work well for them to meet sometime yet this month.

Stef – Anything else? Joan, Leonard, Fr. Tom...?

Cb Young Adult

Dcn Joe – last meeting involved continuing the conversation. Try to work with St. Francis if there was anyone interested. Pastor and Melisa are looking for people. For whatever reason – St. Francis was not aware of the goals. Need more communication on what ACC is about and our goals. Encourage them to be apart of the young adult group.

Shirley – St Francis was frustrated. Didn't feel they were kept in the loop.

Dcn. Joe – Deb Rudolph when thru a list at St. Francis. She didn't want to be on the committee but she can help find names. Hopefully get someone involved.

Stef – anything else?

Cc RCIA

Shirley – letter. Look at is better. Going as a resource of Sacred Heart that is working on evangelization. Time line – have a rep from each parish. Should get together within the month. Share resources.

Cd Worship/Mass

Leonard – No new news.

Fr. Tom – outlined the Mass schedule. Holydays, Christmas, - to honor each parish. This schedule is up for discussion.

Some people have added comments . Candice was having an issue with seeing this document. – See comments on Google Docs.

Leonard – after Fr. Tom reviews comments – should the team get together?

Fr. Tom feels he should meet with Fr. Ron and Fr. Doug first, then get together with committee.

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Stef – Linked info (goals) from other ACC's

Cd cont.

“Welcome Letter”

When letter is sent, have a committee ready to follow up?

Shirley – Committees together, send letter, make phone call, follow up. Talked with Brenda Kresky about phone calls and she feels that right now due to Covid 19 that phone calls would mean so much more to parishioners.

Are committee people “Lifers”?

Joan – Thank you Fr. Tom for comments. Delete “volunteer” from this sentence. Would like to get away from the word volunteer, tends to mean what ever they “Want” to do instead of “called” to do!

Have a representative lined up for the committee from Mayhew lake, St. Stephen and Sauk Rapids, no one from Sartell yet. Should get them together this month yet and get them resources.

Joan – Leonard suggested that we put daily mass times in the letter also.

need to add daily mass times to letter

Stef – still looking for someone to outreach after this letter.

Need as many people as possible to help with the phone calls after the letter goes out – hopefully a couple of weeks after the letter goes out.

Dcn Joe – Different approaches to Evangelization. Start with active parishioners, then inactive, then seekers. Hone in our strategy on who we want to target.

Gather, sharing, communicating, testifying. Next piece, how will this look to build these relationships?

Shirley – Dcn Joe should we meet with you before we meet with subcommittees? Get our stuff in a row first? We want people to be engaged, but what is our overall goal? Process strategy.

Frank – what are we asking them to do? Candice agrees – she is not sure what she is asking someone to do. She would like to meet to hammer out what exactly we are asking them to do.

Dcn Joe – a clear understanding of bringing them to our faith communities and be closer to God.

Shirley – Meet, strategize, make sure they know what we are asking, be clear on things.

***Include: Dcn Joe, Carol, Candice, Shirley, Vicki, Philip, Deb Rudolph and Shelby.**

Stef – Definitely helpful to let people know plans. Might need to start small and grow.

People are asking questions before saying Yes. Q & A would be helpful. ***See pop up video on website from Dcn Joe.**

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Calendar:

Guide for what can be added – see in google docs – shared drive.
Dcn Joe, Stef and Carol have access to make changes. Also Fr. Ron.
Fr. Ron – mentioned he can't get past the fire wall.

Calendar cont:

Stef – Adam made a comment of not being able to get into the ACC website.
Candice – says she has no issue getting into the website at home but cannot get into at St. Francis. ***Maybe because of school firewalls?**

Bulletin:

Joan – Still making changes. Slow going. Jane was on vacation last week. Joan would like to meet with the bulletin committee this week yet. Asking for feedback.
We still have 2 publishers. – Adam and Dana still working on getting down to one. ***Any comments send them to Carol or Joan.**
Leonard – said he liked the consistent color with each parish. Fr. Tom agreed.
Fr. Tom – clarify baptisms, weddings and where they belong is helpful.
Stef – do we need “Bulletin” as a bullet point on the next agenda?
Joan – agrees that it would work to not have it on the agenda but will bring it up to the committee this week when they meet.

Newsletter:

Stef – added this.
Keeping people informed, maybe “Newsletter” isn't the right term? Do we need to set up a spreadsheet and have it transparent to as many people as possible?
Who are we missing, who aren't in the loop? How do we get this information out there?
***What are some ideas? Don't want to put it on one persons shoulders.**

Question on Faith Formation: Some staff do not belong to the parish were missed with information.

Dcn Joe – Visiting parishioner are not always consistent on returning to church and not getting the information.

Presentations on Stewardship were Outstanding! ***Everyone should watch these.** Explains Evangelization and Stewardship.

Dcn Joe has the links and will send out.

Stef – can share these also.

Thoughts on how we can address people we are missing getting information to?

Frank – mentioned we have two different audiences. Staff and everyone as a whole. Might need different ways to get out messages.

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Fr. Tom – Do we need one person as a hub to get out information?

Joan – Thought this was brought up way back when we first starting meeting together.

Leonard – How does this info differ from the bullet points? What info beyond this are we referring to?

Missed Info cont.

Fr Tom - Repetition is important.

Dcn Joe – Information is out there, but are people interested in reading it? Others are focused other places. We need to be creative. One on One, face to face is very important. Build relationships.

Fr. Tom – Flock notes, There are many ways to get info out there.

Frank – back to communications that we talked about originally.

Fr. Ron – Staff – do they need a deeper plunge of info?

Frank – 2 forms – staff, general public.

Shirley – Need to know all the details. But they felt they did not know anything.

Dcn Joe – There is a disconnect of staff at St. Francis. Clarification that this will be shared. Get ALL staff together. Fr. Ron out with Dcn Joe, develop relationships. Get together pieces agree upon by all parishioners. – Internal – Staff, Larger – Parishes.

Joan – agrees. Keep staff informed. Newsletter – Evangelization Letter – would they be 2 separate items?

Stef – Newsletter – not something flashy. Should we be sharing minutes with staff once they are approved? Is it possible to get all staff together virtual or not?

***Ask them if they want minutes sent to them or if they would rather not get them?**

Fr. Ron – easy enough to get emails of staff and send minutes.

Stef – Gage how much info they want – she would send out a form to all staff.

Fr. Tom – Good first step to broaden communications

Joan – Add Schools too?

Stef – *Send out spreadsheet - will need e mails. She will draft a letter.

Shirley and Frank agree – sounds good.

Parish Council & ACC Planning Meeting Updates:

Candice & Frank – Planned on going but meeting got canceled at St. Francis.

Joan – they were all at their meeting at Sacred Heart.

Leonard – was at Mayhew Lake. Private talk after meeting Leonard asked for feedback: Like Mass time, Like collaboration with 4 parishes, One person appreciated the knowledge that we still have individual identity, All 3 priests are

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very much appreciated – was mentioned by many and they like the rotation, also like having deacons here too.

Frank – good idea! (Priest rotation)

***Send info to Stef on comments**

Actionable Item

NOTE: *No Arrowwood Conference this year*

***Next meeting – Tuesday, October 6th at 7pm (till 8:30pm) in person at St. Francis hopefully!**

Dcn Joe – Zoom or social distance with masks? Communication flows better in person. Hybrid is hard. Thinks it should be one or the other, not mixed.

Stef – thinks it will be Zoom for awhile yet.

8:34pm – closing prayer by Stef.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Gans 9/4/2020