

St. Gabriel Pastoral Council Minutes

August 17, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
Stingle Hall, St. Gabriel Parish

Attendees: Casey Auer, Lisa Blenker, Tom Klinkhammer, Beth Knapinski, Fr. Bob Kollath, Mary Koslowski, Steve Pable, Sara Van Frachen

Guests: Tom Kropidlowski

Excused/Absent: Deacon Tom Gritton, Mike Van Dyke

- Presentation
 - Julie Schmitz and Kathy Lamecker presented on Steubenville Conference summer conference experience (attended with Fr. Bob)
 - Recommendation made to offer a monthly/regular “Steubenville Nights” speaker and/or study series for the parish community
 - Parish council approved of the idea and advised next steps to be discussion with Deacon Tom and the Faith Formation Committee for further review and potential implementation.
- Opening Prayer – Mary K.
- Formation of Parish Council of 2021-22
 - Council Member Introductions
 - Members of council and guest in attendance introduced themselves, affiliation with the parish, and their reason for attendance and/or interest in parish council.
 - New Council Members Approved (for three year terms)
 - Lisa and Mark Blenker
 - Beth Knapinski
 - New 2021-22 Officers Approved
 - Sara Van Frachen, Chair
 - Casey Auer, Vice Chair
 - Beth Knapinski, Secretary
 - What is Parish Council?
 - Review of parish council expectations – Sara and Fr. Bob
 - Fr. Bob asked parish council to reflect upon the role and impact of parish council in helping the parish (*What should the pastoral vision, mission, and ministry be?, What is God calling St. Gabriel Parish to do this time in history? Etc.*)
 - Diocesan/parish organizational chart, parish committee document, and diocesan parish pastoral council policies documents shared with parish council for review and reference
- Development of Committee and Establishment of Liaisons

- Parish council members sit on committee(s) to share and report back (two-way engagement and serve as liaison)
- Worship – Deacon Tom, Casey A.
- Christian Service and Living Justice – Tom K.
- Faith Formation – Beth K., Deacon Tom, Steve P.
- Stewardship – Sara V.
- Finance/Building and Grounds – Mike V.
- Evangelization – Deacon Tom, Steve P.
- Confirm dates and times of meetings
 - Regularly the fourth Tuesday/month, Stingle Hall
 - September 28, 6:30 p.m.
 - October 26, 6:30 p.m.
 - November/December TBD
- Follow Up to Re-engagement Webinar
 - Sara provided review of the webinar and parish council is tasked with determining engagement activity/event for diocesan-led parish re-engagement campaign (Every Given Sunday campaign) and Welcome Home Weekend (9/25-26).
 - Diocese has resources and ideas but parishes are encouraged determine best fit for their parish community
 - Plans should be part of longer term campaign and efforts to reengage Catholics and parishioners
 - Welcome event, phone tree, dilly bars/donuts and coffee, engaging school children, etc. all suggested as potential ideas, TBD yet
 - Re-engagement activities will be marketed and communicated to community
- One to One Campaign
 - Fr. Bob reviewed the diocesan One by One campaign with the council
 - Fr. Bob continues to work with the Diocese on developing, introduction, and rollout of the campaign at the parish level and will share more very soon as discussion continue
 - Campaign is financial, capital (updated to the physical space of the church), and evangelistic in nature
- Committee Updates
 - Building and Grounds – Update sent via email to parish council members. Roofing project continues on track. Issue the week of August 17 with suspension ceilings in the school building but Mike V., committee members, and parish volunteers addressed the issue, and the project remains on track.
 - Worship – No updated from Deacon Tom.
 - Stewardship –
 - Sara V. shared an update about the summer parish rummage sale (combined spring and fall rummage sales into one parish summer rummage sale.) Sale went very well and saw an increase in sale profits (from rummage and bake

sale) and community engagement. Committee sent mailers and encouraged neighborhood homeowners to have rummage sales the same weekend. The same format and outreach is suggested for next year.

- Casey A. discussed upcoming Zephyrs Connect (Sept. 3) event at St. Mary Catholic Middle School/High School campus. Each of the five Neenah-Menasha parishes is encouraged to be involved and will receive a portion of event proceeds for participation. Casey A. has lined up St. Gabriel representatives for the St. Gabriel table and volunteer spots. Any additional ideas for handouts, table activities, etc. are welcome (let Casey know.) Info about Welcome Back Weekend was suggested.
- Faith Formation – Beth K. and Steve P. reported they had their first committee meeting on August 16 and will be meeting bimonthly for the coming months. Committee, led by Deacon Tom, is to present “womb to tomb” faith formation review, recommendations, and plan for the parish later this year or early next, implement, and then review progress in the coming 1-2 years.
- Parish Mission Planning
 - Steve P. briefly discussed parish mission planning process and progress.
 - He presented parish council with the parish mission planning goals/strategy document draft.
 - Parish council member to review document and provide any feedback to Steve P.
- Closing Prayer – Steve P.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.