

**Summary of the Minutes of the 413th Meeting
St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council**

February 9, 2012

Members Present: Fr. John Vaughan, Fr. Brandon Williams, Sr. Therese Francis, Deacon Dirck Curry, Garry Pierce, Rita Roberson, Rose Ann Payne, Ray Purk, Eddie O'Bryan, Sandy Carden, John Calhoun, Mary Helen Nash, Laurie Hicks, John Kurtz, Julie Crowe

Member Absent: Travis Van Bussum

I. Opening

- A. Garry Pierce, chair, opened the meeting at 6:00 P.M. Fr. Vaughan led us in prayer.
- B. The January minutes were corrected to read that Mary Helen Nash is the chair of the Welcoming Committee. They were then approved as corrected.

II. Pastor's Comments

- A. Fr. Vaughan reported that progress is being made on the restoration project. The work is on schedule. The Memorials campaign has generated about \$270,000. Two receptions have been held.
- B. As part of the restoration, a ramp will be added leading into the sanctuary. Concerns have been expressed about moving the choir to the loft. Fr. Vaughan and Garry have met with the choir and listened to their suggestions. Solutions are being sought for the issue.
- C. The windowsills in the church are being restored at this time.

D. ARISE

There is a meeting for area pastors and council members on February 13, to outline the ARISE program. It is being offered by the Diocese in conjunction with the celebration of the 75th anniversary of our diocese. It is a program of spiritual renewal centered on Jesus Christ. It is structured on the RENEW format. The program will occur during Advent and Lent for five semesters.

E. Catholic Men's Conference

Many men in our parish are planning to attend this event at Brescia on February 11. This project also helps fulfill our mission statement.

F. Business Manager

Chris Warren has recently resigned as our parish business manager. There have been several inquiries about the position. An interview committee will be set up when needed.

III. Committee Reports

A. Liturgy and Worship

John Calhoun, the liaison, is in the process of enlisting someone to chair this committee. Several are considering the position, but haven't responded yet. The committee assists in preparing liturgies.

B. Servers

Eddie O'Bryan reported that several new servers have been trained. Adults are also encouraged to take part in this ministry.

C. Education

Sandy Carden reported the committee members have discussed their role and are formulating their goals. They will also assist Sr. Therese Francis with the Vacation Bible School. They are working on a booklet that more fully explains their ministry. They meet in the parish office on the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 P.M.

D. Adult Faith Formation

Rose Ann Payne noted they are working on a Lenten program titled "*Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus.*" This catechesis will be held on Sunday evenings during lent at Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The Passionist Priests in Louisville developed the program. A schedule will be listed in the bulletin.

E. Youth Group

Laurie Hicks has been working with this group. They are using a program on *Theology of the Body for Teens*. Frances Seaton is the chair of the Youth Core Team. They meet monthly to plan events for the Youth Group. A sign is being made for their house and will be installed soon. The Diocese is forming a young adult group, which will also meet, at the Youth House.

Our Youth Group is invited to a dinner at the rectory. They will also attend some the Lenten programs at Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

F. Social Concerns

Rita Roberson informed us that our monthly service at St. Benedict's is going well. We provide volunteers on the third Friday of each month. A list of the needs of the shelter will be placed in the bulletin. Mostly they need money to upgrade their showers and restrooms. Garry also noted that our St. Vincent de Paul ministry is in need of more volunteers. They try to staff it daily.

G. Community and Family Enrichment

Ray Purk reported that a new category has been added to our Time and Talent brochure. It is for a "Helping Hands" group that will assist in the physical setting up of events. Also, more coordinators are needed to handle specific social events, such as a reception after First Communion.

H. Welcoming Committee

Mary Helen Nash said the Donut Sunday event went well. Dr. Curry was kept quite busy with the health screening. He noted that fruit could be easily served with the donuts. He provided information sheets on heart health. He checked blood pressure and glucose levels. New parishioners are being personally contacted and invited to attend parish events. Again, more volunteers are needed to make this ministry work well.

I. Finance Committee

John Kurtz will be attending their next meeting on February 13.

J. Disaster Preparedness

Garry reported that Travis said that the group is forming and more information will be in the bulletin soon.

IV. Parish Goals

The Best Practices Goals are the goals for our committees. The Adult Faith Formation committee has written their goals in coordination with our parish's goals. Each committee needs to formulate and implement them.

V. Other Business

- A. Julie Crowe was welcomed to the Parish Council. She expressed an interest in working with our elderly parishioners. She was given a contact person for this ministry.
- B. Ray Purk suggested we categorize each group's activities so it is known what is happening within the parish.
- C. Deacon Curry asked if a letter could be prepared for parishioners to contact their congressmen about topics affecting our Catholic interests. At present Congress is working on a bill that would nullify the health bill's mandate. A form letter could be inserted in the bulletin and it could be signed and mailed to each ones representatives.
- D. Our next meeting is **March 8, 2012, at 6:00 P.M.** Father Brandon led us in a closing prayer. The meeting ended at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Payne
Recording Secretary