

October 8, 2019 Parish Advisory Council Fall Meeting Minutes

Present: Diana Januska, Diane Harken, John Cisek, Mike Francis, Ed Giles, Ann Gornik, Bill Mear, Beth White, Brian Cronin, Meghan Cahill, Christina Howard, Collene Mear, Bill Bright, Jesudas Gudime, Kathleen Gorman, Jessica Koch, MJ Martin, Katie Pruitt, Marc Reszel, Elizabeth Russell-Jones, John Schopp, Rich Voytas, Steve Weigand

Absent: Chris Narbone, Bryant Crane, Collette Doyle, Joe Pepitone, Janet Caschetta

1. Chairperson, Mike Francis, began our meeting with a prayer. The PAC welcomed two new staff members: Rev. Jesudas Gudime, Associate Pastor, and Katie Pruitt, High School Youth Ministry Coordinator.
2. Electronic pre-reads (available on the parish website) are submitted by each ministry and consultative body as a way to efficiently communicate each group's goals, concerns and accomplishments before each council meeting. In addition to highlighting parts of the written material, the following comments were made:
 - Prior to finalizing the parish calendar next year, it was suggested that each group or club review dates of major events to avoid any schedule conflicts. This year the Men's Club has a speaker event that is open to both men and women and the Women's Club has a Fashion Show on November 8.
 - The Catholic Charities LOSS Program will begin to offer a monthly support group at the Parish Center. LOSS is a support group: Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide.
 - The Women's Club 2019 Fashion Show ticket price of \$100 this year is higher than two years ago. Some parishioners have expressed concern to the WC over the increase. Proceeds from the event benefit many local charities and 2 SJC Sharing Parish Ministries.
 - 70 SJC families moved within parish boundaries; 60 families left the area since January as tracked through donation envelopes returned. In that same time period 129 new families became members.
3. Mike Francis (who was slated to be the Vice Chairperson this year) was asked by Fr. Reszel to chair the PAC for FY 2019-2020. Beth White stepped down for personal reasons, but will continue to serve on the PAC for the coming year. There will not be a Vice Chairperson this year.

4. The purpose of the PAC is threefold: to act as an advisory group to the pastor and pastoral staff; to communicate and collaborate across parish groups, staff and volunteers to guide the parish in living out its mission; and to encourage community building throughout the parish.

Membership of the Council currently consists of the pastor, associate pastor, parish deacons, pastoral staff, consultative body representatives, ministry advisory group representatives, the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council representative, four (4) elected at-large parishioners and apostles.

Fr. Reszel discussed that he is considering the future membership of the PAC to be smaller in size. Because he meets with staff every two weeks, and each staff person has a representative on the Council, staff's presence on the PAC is not vital. Father also emphasized that as the Council continues to evolve, its membership should be representative of the whole parish.

5. Last year the PAC expressed a desire to make our parish more environmentally friendly-energy efficient. The council agreed to form a volunteer group to explore this further. Interested parishioners included Kerri DiMonte and Dick Halm who will be asked to spearhead this new initiative.
6. The parish will commemorate its 60th anniversary in 2020. A planning committee, chaired by Bill Bright, will be formed to generate ideas as to how the parish will mark this anniversary. The possibility of a new photo directory was also discussed as the current directory is 5 years old and already dated.
7. The PAC learned how the Sacrament of First Eucharist will be celebrated in the spring. Fr. Reszel explained that in an effort to evangelize and reinvigorate the faith of all believers, the sacrament will now be celebrated within the larger parish community at Sunday Masses over two weekends during the Easter season. Father also explained how the new Mass schedule will allow more sacramental moments and important parish events to take place at Sunday Mass. He emphasized that the First Eucharist celebrations will be continue to be beautiful and will honor each First Communicant. The rationale for this change was spelled out in the October 6 parish bulletin. Several PAC Members commented that some families of First Communicants were not pleased with the change, and that the change could have been better communicated to second grade families. However, most PAC members thought celebrating the Sacrament within the presence of the whole parish made sense and would be welcomed.