

Pax Christi Pastoral Council Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT

Fr. Keefe, Fr. Caesar

First Officer: Miguel Paz,

Members present: Greg Sherman, Pat Fallon, Randy Horlocker, Gene Plutowski

Parish Trustees: Teresa Silker

Guests: Diane Solheid-Miller

OPENING PRAYER

The Gospel for Sunday was read by Teresa Silker and members reflected on what they saw and heard.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Neighborhood Committee

Miguel Paz updated the Council on some of the recent events. The Pax Men's Club opened their April meeting up to the neighborhood since their guest speaker was Steve Thompson from the Police department's gang task force. Meeting was attended by over 100 people. Cimarron neighborhood association also wants to work with Pax and Resurrection Lutheran to help coordinate efforts to help the neighborhood.

2. Summer programs for young children

Diane Solheid-Miller met with the Pastoral Council to discuss what programs could be held this summer for children of the parish and the surrounding community. Last year Diane put together the "Summer Bible Story Time". This was a weekly class held during July and August. A morning and evening session were offered, but most attended the morning session. Average attendance for the morning sessions was 25 to 30 kids. Evening sessions had very little attendance. For this summer, the Council decided to have Diane once again do the Bible Story Time. This is in addition to the Pax Vacation Bible Camp. This summer the Bible Story Time will only offer the morning sessions. They will take place during July and August. The Council recommended that Diane use the services of the Pax youth group and the newly formed neighborhood committee to help with this program.

OLD BUSINESS

1. PAX CHRISTI PASTORAL COUNCIL: STRATEGIC PLANNING 2009.

- a. The Pastoral Council continues to move forward on refining and generating a strategic plan for the next 5 to 7 years. Currently the Council is working on a set of "benchmarks" that can be used as a starting point for our 3 initiatives.

- b. John Ackerman has agreed to help with the “PR” work that needs to be done to help promote the Pax initiatives. Greg and Randy will setup a separate meeting with John to go over our strategy plan and get his comments.
- c. Greg will rewrite the First Initiative to make sure it includes our parish vision and mission.
- d. The Pastoral Council then discussed the next steps for our Strategy Plan. The next steps will be to begin feedback sessions with the Ministry groups to find out how they can incorporate our “initiatives” into their ministries. It was decided that we should hold a series of smaller meetings with several ministries at once to listen to their feedback and concerns. These sessions will begin next month.
- e. For our May meeting, Council members should begin to think about what types of measurements could be used to start monitoring the parish initiatives.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Pastoral Council briefly discussed the upcoming vacancies on the council. Using the list of nominees that was generated last spring, several calls were made and 2 candidates were listed for discernment. They will be invited to our May council meeting. Council members also need to select a First Officer. This will also be done at our May meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, May 21st, 2009.

THANK YOU NOTES

1. Kate Jirik for putting up the signs inviting the neighborhood to the Men’s club meeting.
2. Men’s Club for their “gang awareness” meeting.
3. Pax Health Cabinet for holding the Health Fair on April 19th, 2009.

CLOSING PRAYER

The closing thoughts were presented by Gene Plutowski.

Respectfully submitted,

Miguel Paz
First Officer.