

St. Andrew Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of the 4/14/14 Meeting

Present: Fr. Rob Waller, Andy Hofmann, Carolyn Potter, Pat Meisner, Kristin Woodard, Ray Lamping, Brian Sullivan, Mindy Wagner

The meeting began at 7:34 P.M. with a reading of part of The Appearance on the Road to Emmaus gospel and a prayer related to this reading and the journey of St. Andrew and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parishes into the future.

Andy supplied copies of the evening's agenda to those who needed them.

Minutes of the March 17, 2014 Parish Pastoral Council meeting were discussed. It is the intent of the Parish Pastoral Council to share its processes, discussions and decisions in increasingly transparent ways. Several e-mails were received following the posting of the minutes on the St. Andrew and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton websites. Each communication has received or will receive a response from Father Rob or a member of the Parish Pastoral Council.

The Pastoral Region Planning discussion included the following highlights:

- Andy Hofmann, St. Andrew Parish Pastoral Council President, recently met with Chris Longwell, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Pastoral Council President, for a "get to know you" conversation. Feedback following the March 3 meeting of both parishes at St. Columban was also discussed. It was noted that Parish Pastoral Council and parishioner feedback from both parishes were similar. Andy and Chris plan to meet, perhaps monthly, as the process of preparation and implementation of the new pastoral region unfolds. In addition, the Parish Pastoral Councils of both parishes will meet together in the near future. Those present expressed appreciation to Andy for his work to increase communication and collaboration between the two parishes.
- Reactions and observations regarding the Archdiocesan "Open-Listings" email of April 8, 2014 were shared. (Note: Father Rob had recently emailed the most recent information on openings for pastors to members of the Parish Pastoral Council.) The group agreed that it was helpful to become familiar with the open-listing format in preparation for the new pastoral region and noted similarities and differences in the two current postings.
- The guidelines for the composition/role of the Pastoral Region Coordinating Committee were discussed. Qualities of committee members, as listed in the information received from the Archdiocese and shared at the recent meeting of both parishes, were viewed as very important. Members of the Parish Pastoral Council will study the job description/guidelines and will share ideas at their May meeting.

- Several communications were received by Father Rob and the Parish Pastoral Council following the open meeting for parishioners of St. Andrew and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parishes and the posting of the St. Andrew Parish Pastoral Council March meeting minutes. It is recommended that e-mail communications directed to the Parish Pastoral Council be answered by Andy Hofmann or Pat Meisner and shared with Father Rob. The group agreed that the minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council meeting should reflect well the supportive and positive tone of the discussions. It was suggested and agreed upon that the minutes of each meeting will be previewed by several persons outside the Parish Pastoral Council prior to posting to avoid misinterpretation or informational gaps.

Discussion of the Vibrant Church document was tabled to allow time for other agenda items.

Father Rob presented information on the 2014 Reverse Tithing Sweepstakes. This year's sweepstakes will begin at Masses on Kick-Off Sunday, May 4, followed by a mailing to all parishioners during the week of May 5. Communications about projects funded by the Reverse Tithing Sweepstakes from 2009 to 2014 are being prepared for distribution.

The March parish financial statement that was included as a bulletin insert last Sunday was briefly reviewed. A modest surplus is listed for the fiscal year, although no deposit to savings was made in March and the parish did not make an Archdiocesan assessment "pre-payment" in March.

Parishioners received Holy Week and Easter information in the mail, including an additional envelope for contributions to the Easter collection. Feedback to Father Rob regarding the Easter envelope followed, as this is the first year St. Andrew has included an envelope in this annual mailing.

Father Rob invited each member of the Parish Pastoral Council to choose a book from the upcoming Archdiocesan convocation for priests and parish staffs. Parish Pastoral Council members expressed appreciation for this special gift.

How shall the Parish Pastoral Council approach the groups/ministries of the parish to seek feedback and involvement in preparation for the new pastoral region? This topic will be addressed at the Council's May meeting. In preparation, Kristin will prepare a list of groups/ministries. Parish Pastoral Council members will indicate their choices of groups to visit.

Following a closing prayer, the meeting adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

The next meeting of the St. Andrew Parish Pastoral Council will be on Monday, May 19 in the parish office meeting room.

Recorder: Patricia Meisner, Secretary