

**Minutes of the 479th Meeting
Saint Stephen Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council**

December 12, 2019

Members Present: Fr. Jerry Riney, David Hemingway, Peggy Bellew, Mark Heinz, Kelsey Rhodes, Russell Vaughn, Kathryn Wimsatt

Members Absent: LaWanna Brand, Brenda Clark, Samantha Taylor-Kaai, Stephen Roby,

Parish Team: Fr. Sinoj Pynadath, Donna Tarantino

I. Welcome and Call to Order

David Hemingway, co-chair, opened the meeting.

II. Scripture – *At Home with the Word*

PPC members read and reflected Scripture from *At Home with the Word*.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as written for the November 14, 2019, meeting.

IV. Liaison Reports – David Hemingway

A. Parish Finance Committee – Mark Heinz

Mark Heinz reported the finance committee last met on November 21, 2019. The regular collection is slightly ahead of budget and is \$20,000.00 ahead from the same time period last year. End of year giving helps the budget. The Capital Campaign contributions are going well. The total amount of outstanding pledges is \$94,000.00. There is one more year to fulfill pledges. Our 2020 parish target for Disciples Response Fund was \$26,104.79. As of December 2019, \$35,648.00 has been pledged and \$28,063.00 has been paid. The collection for Hispanic Ministry in Daviess and Hancock County is December 15, 2019. Security access is nearing completion. The church doors except for front door and elevator automatically opens at 6:00 am and locks at 5 or 6:00 pm.

B. Liturgy and Worship – Brenda Clark (Fr. Jerry on her behalf)

Fr. Jerry reported The Art and Environment Committee will be transforming the church from Advent to Christmas on Monday, December 22, 2019, at 9:00 am or 1:00 pm. The Choir/ Music ministry under the leadership of James Wells had an Advent potluck on December 11, 2019, in the rectory. Corey Bruns will be at SSC during the Christmas Liturgies. He will be decorating the rectory on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, from 4-7 pm. He is recruiting young people to help.

C. Social Concerns and Outreach – Peggy Bellew

Peggy Bellew reported the Social Concerns committee met on November 22, 2019. Rick, Crissy, and Hannah are working on Outreach activities to bring people together. Discussion was held concerning the purpose and future of our Community Garden. SSC is donating \$3,000.00 to help Habitat for Humanity purchase property on West 5th Street for 3 houses. Discussion was held concerning having one of the houses designated as a SSC “Build.” St. Benedict’s is opening a shelter for women and children at Hickman and 9th Street. They are also now managing St. Gerard’s House. Laurie Hicks is on the board of directors and does lots of work for the organization. Joe Abel and Stephanie Carrico are organizing the January Birthright “baby bottle” collection. A Medical Mission is planned March 28-April 3, 2020.

D. Education and Formation/Spiritual Enrichment – LaWanna Brand

No report.

E. Youth – Fr. Jerry

Fr. Jerry announced there are 2 High School small groups that meet twice a month. Five adults and six youth attended The National Catholic Youth Conference in Indy from November 21-23, 2019. On December 8, 2019, 2 youth attended Lessons and Carols in St. Meinard. Family Christmas Caroling will take place on December 15, 2019, at 2:00 pm. The Christmas Youth Ministry Open House is

December 23, 2019, from 12:30-4:00 pm.

F. Buildings and Grounds – Russell Vaughn

Russell Vaughn reported the security cameras will be up and running in the next few weeks.

The security lighting is greatly improved in the back lot and the Youth House. The large cameras in the church are streaming cameras. Most feedback has been positive but there has been some negative.

G. Marketing and Communications - David Hemingway

David Hemingway reported the committee will be selling ornaments after Sunday Masses through the Holidays, at the Preschool Christmas Program and in the Parish Office. David passed around a copy of the *Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce 2019-2020 Relocation Guide*. We have an ad in the publication.

H. Capital Campaign/Porch Renovation – Steven Roby (Donna Tarantino on his behalf)

No report.

I. Community and Family Enrichment – Kelsey Rhodes and Kathryn Wimsatt

Kathryn Wimsatt reported The Rectory Christmas Open House will be December 28, 2019, 6:30-8:30 pm. The Pastoral Team Christmas Gathering will be January 10, 2020, at 6:00 pm. The PPC Christmas Party will be January 11, 2020, at 6:30 pm.

V. Long-Range Plan – Donna Murphy (Donna Tarantino on her behalf)

Donna Tarantino reported the final copies of our long-range plan will arrive at the first of the year.

VI. Stewardship Update – Donna Tarantino

Donna T reported 578 TTT pamphlets were mailed to parishioners with 189 returned. This is a 33% response rate. Discussion was held concerning why people do not turn in and how to increase the rate of return.

VII. New Business

Fr. Jerry announced SSC will be participating in the Vocation Initiative “Matthew 9.” Parishioners are asked to pray the rosary on a particular day for vocations to the priesthood. Nathan and Amanda Reffitt will coordinate. The Epiphany Party, potluck, and bunco will be January 5, 2020.

VIII. Unfinished Business

None

IX. Pastor’s Comments

Fr. Sinoj will be in India from January 20 thru February 14, 2020. The SSC Reconciliation Service will be December 22, 2020, at 2:00 pm. He asked all to be intentional about Hospitality at Christmas Masses. Help is needed with book giveaways at the Christmas Masses.

X. Fr. Sinoj Comments

Fr. Sinoj asked for prayers for all those sick in our parish.

XI. Birthdays, Anniversaries, Ordinations, etc.

Donna Murphy and David Hemingway were wished a Happy December Birthday.

XII. Adjourn

There is no January meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Tarantino