

**Minutes of the 480th Meeting
Saint Stephen Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council**

February 13, 2020

Members Present: Fr. Jerry Riney, Samantha Taylor-Kaai, David Hemingway, Peggy Bellew, LaWanna Brand, Brenda Clark, Mark Heinz, Kelsey Rhodes, Steven Roby, Kathryn Wimsatt

Members Absent: Russell Vaughn

Parish Team: Deacon Richard Murphy, Donna Murphy, Donna Tarantino

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Samantha Taylor-Kaai, chair, opened the meeting at 6:11 pm.

II. Scripture – *At Home with the Word.*

PPC members read and reflected on the First Reading and Gospel for February 16, 2020.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as written for the December 12, 2019, meeting.

IV. Liaison Reports – David Hemingway

A. Parish Finance Committee – Mark Heinz

Mark Heinz reported the regular collection is ahead of budget and is \$57,756.00 ahead from the same time period last year. We have received \$748,000 for the Capital Campaign. Of that amount \$73,000 was received from donors that did not make a pledge. The total amount of outstanding pledges for the Capital Campaign is \$59,000.00. 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 Preschool is doing well financially and is self-sufficient due to Casino Night proceeds and a very generous contribution. Fr. Jerry requested it be noted that we are blessed to have Pam Weafer as the director of the Preschool.

B. Liturgy and Worship – Brenda Clark

Fr. Jerry reported we have 6 new choir members. Ash Wednesday is February 26, 2020, and members were asked to sign up to distribute ashes. The Mandeville Collection is on Ash Wednesday. Stations of the Cross during Lent will be held on Monday at 6:00 pm and Fridays after the noon Mass. PPC members will lead the Stations on March 2, 2020. Please let Fr. Jerry know if you can be there. The Art and Environment Committee is preparing for Lent. Corey Bruns' Ordination to the Diaconate will be April 4, 2020. Deacon Stephen, a Myanmar Seminarian, will be ordained to the priesthood in May. Discussion was held about changing the Christmas Day Mass times. Nathan and Amanda Reffitt are coordinating the Matthew 9 Initiative for our parish; thirty-one families are committed to praying the rosary on each day of the month for vocations to the priesthood. Every parish in the diocese is involved in the program. Fr. Jerry thanked Fr. Ray Clark for organizing the Ecumenical Service held at SSC. The Rite of Election will be held on March 1, 2020, at 2:00 and 6:00 pm.

C. Social Concerns and Outreach – Peggy Bellew

Peggy Bellew reported a Medical Mission is planned for March 28-April 3, 2020. The Committee is currently making contacts and discussing the future of the Community Garden. The Social Outreach Lenten Collections are: Crossroads Emergency Shelter for Women and Children, Daniel Pitino Shelter, Cathedral Soup Kitchen, and SSC Backpack Ministry. Monetary donations can be made on WeShare or in special envelopes in the pews. The total netted for The Birthright "baby bottle" collection was \$2,810.48. The Heralds of Good News Collection is March 8, 2020. Habitat for Humanity is purchasing 3 lots on West 5th Street. SSC would like to increase our donation to Habitat from \$3,000. to \$6,000.00. SSC will organize Habitat work projects for parishioners. The next Social Concerns Committee meeting is April 23, 2020.

D. Education and Formation/Spiritual Enrichment – LaWanna Brand

LaWanna Brand reported the Preschool's 5 Star accreditation was renewed. Their new sign will be in place soon. The Preschool needs shade for the playground. The Grandparents Day Celebrations at the Preschool will be March 9 & 10, 2020. Six to eight couples are attending Couples in Christ. Maryann Joyce is presenting 12 Steps for Christian Aging at SSC. It is geared towards Senior Citizens.

E. Youth – Samantha Taylor-Kaai

Samantha Taylor-Kaai announced 2 High School small groups meet twice a month. On December 15, 2019, about 15 people participated in Family Christmas Caroling. Tom Kurtz and Landon Reffitt will attend the Diocesan Lazarus Retreat on February 14-16, 2020. Parishioners are given the opportunity to take part in a 27-hour prayer vigil; and/or write letters of encouragement to the participants. Vocation night, "Pizza with the Priests and Sisters," is February 23, 2020. This program is for youth grades 7-12 and is from 6-8:00 pm in the Youth House. The Graduate Mass will be March 1, 2020, after the 9 and 11:00am Masses with "enhanced" donuts at our Welcome Sunday. Youth 2000, for ages 13 to 30, is March 6-8, 2020, at Brescia University.

F. Buildings and Grounds – Russell Vaughn (Mark Heinz on his behalf)

Fr. Jerry thanked Russell Vaughn and Mark Heinz for filling in for Jeff Payne while he was on Retreat. There is now a monitor in the vestibule. The Community Garden needs someone to run it.

G. Marketing and Communications - David Hemingway

David Hemingway reported the Marketing Committee has not met since the last PPC meeting. They will be sending Arts at the Cathedral donation letters this month.

H. Capital Campaign/Porch Renovation – Steven Roby

No report.

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

Kathryn Wimsatt reported the annual fish fry, chaired by Laurie Hicks, will be March 20, 2020. PPC members were asked to sign up to help with the event. Blessed Sacrament will host an Italian Dinner fundraiser on February 29, 2020.

V. Long-Range Plan – Donna Murphy

Donna Murphy handed out color copies of our long-range plan. She pointed out that the goals are the key part of the document. About 50 people have worked on the plan. LPi will publish 250 copies but we do not know when they will arrive.

VI. Stewardship Update – Donna Tarantino

Donna T handed out copies of the Security, Surveillance, and Streaming Update. Highlights of the report included: 32 cameras have been installed around the campus, 13 doors have access control, and 3 cameras for streaming have been installed. A "techie" committee needs to be formed to stream special events. The Parish Team is waiting for training on the equipment. The funding for streaming was provided by a generous bequest from a Cathedral parishioner. Donna T reported we have several new ministers: 7 Hospitality, 1 Sacristan, 4 Servers, 9 Eucharistic Ministers, and 3 Lectors. Donna T announced 35 new families registered in the last 6 months. The Encouragement of Gifts Long-Range Planning Committee recruited 4 new people to help with TTT follow up. She has received 243 TTT forms which is a 42% return.

VII. New Business

Deacon Richard announced the diocese will be recruiting a new class to the permanent diaconate. Please encourage men to join the diaconate.

VIII. Unfinished Business

None

IX. Pastor's Comments

Fr. Sinoj will be returning from India on February 14, 2020. The Bishop has been to India to visit the Heralds of the Good News Leadership and to Myanmar to visit the Bishop. A goal of the Liturgy Team Long-Range Planning Committee is to create a tool for evaluating our current liturgy schedule. The annual Mass Attendance Census was conducted at the weekend Masses during the month of October 2019. The results show that on average for the 4-week period there were 730 people attending a weekend Mass at SSC. Discussion was held concerning the change of Sunday Mass times. Fr. Jerry stated the new PPC needed to be in place by the June 2020, PPC meeting. During the season of Lent we will have a nomination period. The two discernment meetings will take place after Easter and first of May. Fr. Jerry announced Bishop Medley's 10th Anniversary Celebration is taken place 6:00 pm on February 17, 2020, at SSC with a reception following in the Community Center. Fr. Jerry reported the Priests Convocation had good attendance and excellent speakers.

X. Birthdays, Anniversaries, Ordinations, etc.

LaWanna Brand, Samantha Taylor-Kaai, and Margie Ebelhar were wished a Happy January Birthday. Fr. Sinoj was wished a Happy January Ordination Anniversary. Brenda Clark and Fr. Jerry were wished a Happy February Birthday.

XI. Adjourn

The next meeting is March 12, 2020. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Ebelhar