

Minutes of the 491st Meeting
Saint Stephen Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council
Fr. John Vaughan Community Center

October 14, 2021

Members Present: Fr. John Thomas, Samantha Taylor-Kaai, David Hemingway, Lauren Calhoun, Brenda Clark, Mark Heinz, Kelsey Rhodes, Russell Vaughn, John Wright

Members Absent: LaWanna Brand

Parish Team: Fr. Sinoj, Donna Murphy

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Fr. John Thomas opened the meeting at 6:03 pm. He welcomed the two newly appointed PPC members, Lauren Calhoun and John Wright. Everyone in the room introduced themselves to the group.

II. What is a Parish Pastoral Council

Fr. John Thomas stated the purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council is to oversee the pastoral ministry of the parish. He handed out the document, "Guidelines, Policies, & Best Practices for Parish Pastoral Councils," which was published by the Diocese of Owensboro in November 2020. He noted on page 6 the section concerning the purpose of PPC.

This was the first meeting as a new PPC. David Hemingway was selected as the Chair and John Wright as the Vice Chair of PPC. Their terms will be for 1 year. The liaison committee assignments are the following: Parish Finance Committee – Mark Heinz, Liturgy and Worship – Lauren Calhoun, Social Concerns & Outreach – Samantha Kaai, Education – LaWanna Brand, Youth – Kelsey Rhodes, Buildings and Grounds – Russell Vaughn, Marketing and Communications – John Wright, Community and Family Enrichment – Brenda Clark. Fr. John Thomas asked committee liaisons to send a written report to Margie Ebelhar a week before the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as written for the August 12, 2021, meeting.

IV. Liaison Reports – David Hemingway

A. Parish Finance Committee – Mark Heinz

Mark Heinz reported collections are still behind budget. After 15 weeks of the fiscal year we have received \$313,520.00 which is \$15,324.00 less than budgeted.

B. Liturgy and Worship – Brenda Clark

No report.

C. Social Concerns and Outreach – Samantha Kaai

Samantha Kaai stated the following organizations will be recipients of our Thanksgiving Offerings: Help Office, St. Gerard's Life Home, Afghan Refugee Relief, Fresh Start for Women, and St. Stephen Cathedral Food Pantry.

D. Education and Formation/Spiritual Enrichment – LaWanna Brand (Samantha Kaai and Donna Murphy on her behalf)

Samantha Kaai announced that Faith Formation has started with a change in format. Donna Murphy reported that the RCIA program has begun and has 11 candidates.

E. Youth – Samantha Taylor Kaai

No report. Fr. John Thomas stated that Karina Romero had been newly hired.

F. Buildings and Grounds – Russell Vaughn

Russell Vaughn reported what they thought was a leak in the rose window was actually a leak in the roof. The roof was repaired. Inside repairs to the rose window will be scheduled in January while the priests will be away for the annual convocation. Russell stated the Community Garden was a big success and served the surrounding community. Fall Cleanup Day is October 30, 2021. Due to the

recent robberies in the rectory garage, Russell thinks any item purchased should have the serial number recorded and a picture taken. Work is to begin on the leaking baptismal font. We continue to have problems with the plumbing in the bridal suite; so, a small sewage pump will be installed.

G. Marketing and Communications - David Hemingway

No report.

H. Community and Family Enrichment – Kelsey Rhodes

No report.

V. New Business

None

VI. Unfinished Business

None

VII. Pastor's Comments

Fr. John Thomas asked Fr. Sinoj to give a report concerning the Synod that has been called by the Holy Father and will continue until 2023. Pope Francis wants every member of the church to be part of the Synod. The Bishop will celebrate the opening of the Diocesan Synod at the 11:00 Mass on October 17, 2021. Fr. John Thomas stated there have been a few complaints about the sound system. He is collecting feedback from people that are sitting in the pews. Due to the above-mentioned robbery they are locking the church doors at 4:30 pm.

VIII. Birthdays, Anniversaries, Ordinations, etc.

Mark Heinz was wished a Happy September Birthday. Deacon Richard was wished a Happy September Ordination. Mark and Rita Heinz were wished a Happy October Wedding Anniversary.

IX. Prayer – Fr. Sinoj

Fr. Sinoj closed the meeting with prayer.

X. Adjourn

The next meeting is November 11, 2021. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Ebelhar