

**Minutes of the 504th Meeting
Saint Stephen Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council
Conference Room at the Parish Office**

August 10, 2023

Members Present: Fr. John Thomas, David Danhauer, Lauren Calhoun, LaWanna Brand, Dirk Dooper, Kelsey Rhodes, Samantha Taylor Kaai

Members Absent: Brenda Clark, John Wright

Parish Team: Fr. Shibu, Donna Murphy

I. Call to Order

David Danhauer, Chair, opened the meeting at 6:03 pm.

II. Prayer

David Danhauer led the PPC in prayer.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved as written for the May 11, 2023, meeting.

IV. Liaison Reports – David Danhauer

A. Parish Finance Committee – Dirk Dooper

Dirk Dooper reported we are \$5,000 less budget to actual. The Finance Committee is looking for 2 new members. Last year's budget ended June 30, 2023, in the black. The parish is switching from the PDS software program to Quik Books. The diocese is performing an audit so there will not be a new budget until the audit is complete.

B. Liturgy and Worship – Lauren Calhoun

No report. Fr. John Thomas added the home Masses are going well. The Dedication Anniversary will be celebrated on September 9, 2023, after the 4:30 Mass with a dinner.

C. Social Concerns and Outreach – Samantha Taylor-Kaai

Samantha Taylor-Kaai reported the last Social Concerns meeting was held on May 25, 2023. At the meeting they discussed the Community Garden, the Birthright Baby Bottle Collection, and the Lenten Collection. Andrew Nunez informed the committee a total amount given for the Lenten Collection was \$2,590.00. Parish staff reported The Emergency Food Pantry volume remains lower than before the readjustment to the program. St. Vincent de Paul reports that since the change of rules regarding only serving individuals in our Parish boundaries, the volume of folks helped has decreased. There has been a reduction of volunteers to prepare the meal on the 3rd Sunday at the Pitino Shelter. At least 6 people are needed for this ministry. Samantha Taylor-Kaai will become the Social Concerns Committee Chair at the August 17, 2023, meeting. LaWanna Brand added the Stephen Ministry is alive and well.

D. Education and Formation/Spiritual Enrichment – LaWanna Brand

LaWanna Brand presented a report from Cheryl Powell, the Director of Children and Family Ministry. The Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume on Sunday, September 10, 2023, at the 8:30 Mass. First Sacraments will begin on August 22, 2023, with a parent only meeting. Faith Formation will begin on September 10, 2023. There are a total of 33 potential students. Cheryl Powell is also in charge of Baptism preparation. Trunk or Treat will happen at the Fall block party on October 29, 2023. A family movie night based on the Nativity story with dinner, a craft, and a take home is scheduled for some time in December. Cheryl and Karina Romero plan on redoing the Children's Liturgy Room to make it a hospitable environment for adult/Catechist meetings and gatherings. LaWanna reported the following groups and numbers provided by Rick Rhodes: Welcome Home 5, Journey of Faith 6, Acts 2:42 groups 10, Prayline 100, RCIA 6.

E. Youth – Kelsey Rhodes

In her Youth Ministry report Karina Romero stated the parish had over 20 youth who went to Gasper River this summer and they all received mail from the parish. A prayer team of over 30 people prayed for our youth while at camp. Karina is about to begin signups for small groups. She is starting an “After Party” where they will have dinner and games periodically after 4:30 pm Mass. She has started check ins where she meets groups of youth. Karina will be at the Catholic Middle and High School once a week to build relationships with our Catholic school students. Confirmation preparation starts in September. Karina is working on creating an “in town” mission week for middle schoolers. In her Young Adult report she stated there are currently 3 young adult small groups that meet weekly to study and pray together. Each month she hosts Communion and coffee where they attend Saturday morning Mass together and meet in the youth house. There have been many young adult socials during the summer. Karina has also implemented check ins with our young adults. She is researching and exploring forming a young married couples group.

F. Buildings and Grounds – Fr. John Thomas

Fr. John Thomas announced PPC member Russell Vaughn has changed parishes and will no longer be on the PPC. Fr. John reported the Baptismal Font has been repaired and is working. The insurance company has inspected the storm roof damage and tiles have been ordered.

G. Community and Family Enrichment – Margie Ebelhar (on behalf of Brenda Clark)

Margie Ebelhar reported the 2nd Annual Parish Patio Party held Saturday, June 3, 2023, was a success. Fr. John Thomas stated the ice cream social went well. Fr. John reported Andrew Nunez called Executive Taxi Company about providing transportation on Sunday to parishioners for Mass. The company was not interested in providing the service. Fr. John will contact Uber.

H. Long Range Planning – John Wright

No report.

V. Unfinished Business

This is the last meeting for PPC members Brenda Clark, Samantha Taylor-Kaai, and Kelsey Rhodes. Fr. John thanked the members for their long service to the PPC. Father is in the process of asking new members to join the PPC.

VI. Pastor’s Report

Fr. John Thomas announced Fr. Shibu is going home to India on September 5, 2023. He will be gone for over 30 days.

VII. Action Items

None

VIII. Birthdays, Anniversaries, Ordinations, etc.

Brenda and Sy Clark were wished a Happy June Wedding Anniversary. Kelsey and Ben Rhodes, and Jeff and Margie Ebelhar were wished a Happy July Wedding Anniversary. Dirk Dooper was wished a Happy August Birthday. Donna and Richard Murphy, and Samantha and Duncan Kaii were wished a Happy August Anniversary.

IX. Closing Prayer – Fr. John Thomas

Fr. John Thomas led the PPC in a closing prayer.

X. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled Thursday, September 14, 2023. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Ebelhar