

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
St. Francis of Assisi
May 11, 2011

President Paul Litteken opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:30 P.M. Members attending were: Paul Litteken, Dottie Burton, Doris Goestenkors, Julie Stockmann, Kevin Litteken, Tom Huelsmann, Don Lampe, Amy Beer, Diane Wellen and Father Dan.

The minutes from the prior meeting were approved and Paul submitted to Carolyn to be posted in the website.

This meeting began with a special presenter, Br. Bob Rapp, a Marianist Brother, who spoke on the Hispanic community within our area. Br. Rapp has been hired by the North Central Deanery to work with the Hispanics of our area. He spoke on how we might get the Hispanics to become a part of and more involved in our parish. He shared his personal observations and perceptions of the reality of the immigrants in the North-Central Deanery of the Diocese of Belleville. One of the important conclusions that Brother Rapp shared is that the church is one of the only official places, in the larger society, which gives them their place, their dignity as persons, even officially stamped and signed documents (Baptismal Certificates, etc.). It is important that “we” be present, that we be on “their side” and with them. The word ACOMPANAR is so important for a Hispanic...TO ACCOMPANY. A suggestion was made to see if Brother Rapp felt we should get the Hispanics involved in the picnic or in a fundraiser. He felt it would be great to have a taco stand at the picnic. Also it was mentioned that the kids should get their Hispanic friends from school involved as well.

Brother Rap’s personal suggestion is that we form some small groups, some faith based communities to give the folks a more tangible support network. He still is in the process of meeting and knowing who folks are, but by the Fall he would like to begin inviting some individuals to participate and share Scripture of the day and the realities of our daily lives as a basis for our sharing.

WEB PAGE PROMOTION

Don mentioned he talked to Nancy and she noted that CYM uses the website often. Father mentioned that the CYM could post their Calendar of Events but it is not currently being done.

CPAC

Kevin mentioned nothing new occurred since the last meeting.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR DEVELOPING FAITH

Susan Bridges asked for input – a process used where she works called the SWOT analysis.

S - Strengths

W - Weaknesses

O - Opportunities

T - Threats

Susan was not in attendance to share the results at this meeting.

PASTORAL COUNCIL GUIDELINES

Kevin will get copies of the new Diocesan Pastoral Council Guidelines.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Father mentioned the campaign was going very well. Support seemed to be strong at the receptions- about 200 attended each one.. The information was mailed out to the parishioners for the pledges – about 686 households (anyone 21 or above)

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NEW BUSINESS

None

OPEN ISSUES/DISCUSSIONS

Discussion on how the CYM does a great job for the parish and questioned if 18 year old can chaperone their peers. Father stated for insurance and Youth Protection Policy purposes an adult must be present (21 or older).

PASTORAL GUIDANCE

None

The meeting was adjourned approximately 10:00 pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 8th at 7:30

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Wellen