

*PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING*  
*St. Francis of Assisi*  
January 12, 2011

Vice President Paul Litteken opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:30 P.M. Members attending were: Paul Litteken, Brian Beckmann, Diane Wellen, Steve AuBuchon, Dottie Burton, Doris Goestenkors, Julie Stockmann, Lori Dall, Frank Dall, Kevin Litteken and Tom Huelsmann, Father Dan and the newly elected members of Don Lampe, Susan Bridges and Amy Beer .

A couple of updates were identified to the December minutes. One change was that Tom motioned to approve the notes and Brian made the second motion. The other changes concerning the pastoral council election report – the last sentence should say that Lori wanted to note that there were 58 nominees who declined being a nominee. These modifications will be updated and resent with the January minutes.

The newly elected members of the council were welcomed and introduced to existing members. It was noted that Brian, Lori and Steve were rolling off of the council and Father Dan does have the option to appoint another person if he so wishes to do so. Farther discussion explained that having 9 members allowed only 1/3 turnover rather than the ½ of the turnover that occurred in the past. The 3 year terms also matches that of the cluster council.

#### **WEB PAGE PROMOTION**

Again it was mentioned that no responses were received from the last promotion. The winner from last promotion would have won a gift card to Knights of Columbus breakfast. A suggestion was made to award money rather than a gift card to spur interest. Other suggestions included to put the question on the marquee outside of the gym, have Father refer to the question at the end of Mass or put a blurp in the bulletin to get the interest from feasibility study minutes, pastoral council minutes or even the scholarship information. The question for the next promotion would deal with the election results. Kevin will contact Carolyn to adjust the web site by deleting the information on the members leaving the council.

#### **CPAC**

Kevin handed out a document that he is presenting at the upcoming CPAC meeting which describes the Cluster Pastoral Advisory Council. He explained that currently Steve, Kevin and Julie are representing St. Francis and with Steve leaving that one of the new members needs to replace him. He continued to explain that the main purpose of the team was for communication between the parishes of projects and involvement in the parishes. An example - sharing the creation of the Water Cooler Catholicism in Aviston to other parishes. Since meetings are quarterly it is hard to accomplish projects. The outdoor mass typically held around August 15<sup>th</sup> was also discussed. A lot of communication is done for the team via email. The CPAC summary document reviewed all these items as well. Kevin asked Father for 6 copies of the by-laws which Father supplied during the meeting. Also- it was noted – that St. Francis is considered advanced

in the cluster. Kevin also shared that he is the current president of the CPAC. Don Lampe volunteered to take Steve's position. The next meeting is at 7 in St. Dominic's cafeteria.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN FOR DEVELOPING FAITH**

Steve Aubuchon handed out the outline for the Strategic Plan for the St. Francis of Assisi Parish. He shared that the outline identifies our goals and now milestones need to be determined. The milestones would be best if they can be measured using an example of a fund-raiser measurement. Each of the goals could have their own committee – who is in charge of these committees is very important. These committees would meet outside the pastoral council meeting- 3 or 4 members per team. Get the youth plugged in – get high schools to talk about getting involved. Include leaders of youth ministry. After all, youth ministry was an emphasis in the past and from that the vacation bible study, hiring DRE and Sunday school was created from that effort. Another suggestion to coordinate with buddies and get news out – night out such as volleyball, basketball etc. Total use of the gym is available. Amy suggested using facebook to get the information out – Father suggested that Amy go forward and try using facebook to get something together. Retreats, evangelization, missions etc are other methods of getting groups involved. Pastoral council would then pull a cohesive plan together –pull joint meeting to pull the goals together. Once a draft of the strategic plan is created, put it on the website and ask for feedback. Below is the Strategic Plan that Steve pulled together for us:



Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Strategic

Another idea was brought forth by Susan Bridges – a process used where she works called the SWOT analysis.

- S - Strengths**
- W - Weaknesses**
- O - Opportunities**
- T - Threats**

This method helps gain focus where we need to focus. Examples include strengths of involved parishioners and strong youth ministry; opportunities include many of the items discussed above including volleyball games, possible ways to generate income - like the choir sell Christmas CDs/trivia night/meeting room rentals and using facebook to get people engaged,etc. Also, texting a quote to keep the young engaged in faith was also mentioned. Susan agreed to keep the SWOT analysis going and asked the council to bring what they feel are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to the next meeting.

It was mentioned that CYM possibly could also use the SWOT analysis in their organization to determine their focus. Susan said she could talk to them.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Election of new Officers**

Paul asked for nominations for President as he was not interested in the position at this time. Dottie was nominated and she declined. Kevin nominated Paul and Dottie did second the motion. Paul accepted. Dottie was nominated for VP – Don nominated and Tom seconded the motion. Dottie accepted. Dottie nominated Diane to continue as secretary and Doris second the motion. I accepted.

### OPEN ISSUES/DISCUSSIONS

Finance committee hired consultant-CDS- for the fund raising to support the work for church repairs. January thru March will be used to get ready for the capital campaign drive. A video is being created to see where the repairs are needed. The Diocese is only involved in the authorization of the projects- they are protection -not control. Feasibility takes the next step to contact design professionals. The letters to the contractors will be going out on January 13<sup>th</sup>. They will develop the costs and designs by preparing a preliminary sketch.

The response from the survey was very good. Estimated 300 surveys for the active families in the church and over 200 were returned- per Father it was close to a 75% return rate.

Cry room activities to be done in January time frame.

2015 is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Parish. Mike Buscher is working to identify the last 75 years.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 10:00.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 9th at 7:30

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane Wellen