

**Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2017**

*Father's homily lifted from scripture the question: "Do you want to be well?" Father Bob challenged us to check our attitudes lest we become so stuck in a rut, so resigned, so defeated that we anticipate disappointment. Rather than curse God we should reach out to Him in our brokenness.
After supper, Father welcomed back our 'snow birds.'*

Large Group updates:

April 7, Spy's Fish Fry

Proceeds will fund the upcoming youth's mission trip to Oklahoma. Andrea & Ellen will donate baked goods for the dessert.

April 28th, Family Fun Night

Bingo, dice game, beer tasting, ice cream making, clowning, movies, photo booth, vendor tables, Winter Carnival Royalty visit, bean bag toss, reading corner, face painting, arts n craft table are planned for this grand evening for the whole family.

Walking Tacos, hot dogs, popcorn, and possibly Jersey's sliders provided mini donuts and beer available for additional cost. Early bird is \$20/family or \$25/family at the door.

Parish Council meeting:

In attendance: Bill, Jeanne, Andrea, Ellen, Jane Marie, Joan, Demetri, Terry, Juliette, Kayla, Father Bob and joined by guest Rita Guild

Terry opened in prayer. Minutes were approved and personal bests were shared in timely order.

Special Events

Nomination Process

Nomination bulletin blurb will run April 15 & 16 with Terry speaking from the pulpit April 23 & 24. Terry thanked Denise for retrieving old bulletins for him, for comparison.

Blue Sky Initiative

Parish Communications (Jane Marie, Andrea, Mary, and Ellen)

Jane Marie reported that the sub-committee plans to submit short columns for publication in our bulletin, ideally bi-monthly. Bryan is offering his cooperation and practical support, as usual. In April, the "Parish Spotlight" article will be on Terry/PPC and Diane Reitter/Grandparent Ministry. Mary, Andrea, Ellen and Jane Marie are contributing to this effort, to elevate awareness of staff, lay leaders, specific projects, and ministries. Ideally the person interviewed will be visibly present after Masses the weekend (s)he is highlighted in the bulletin. Jane Marie crafted a schedule, drawing from the green Parish Ministry booklet, and welcomes suggestions of people/topics for inclusion.

Increased Participation (Joan, Fred, Jeanne, and Demetri)

Jane Marie reported on a small sub-committee's evaluation of Be My Disciples (BMD). Comparing notes after attending an hour webinar, their recommendation is that parish council would instead of introducing yet another new initiative (BMD) invest energies in our Blue Sky initiative and 5 year strategic plan. All

steps listed on the white board, when we brainstormed two years ago, are to tie into one of the four pillars (of our mission.)

Joan, who had been waiting for the decision on BMD, will shepherd our efforts toward increased participation with focus on millennials. She said she is glad to 'own it' and 'run with it.' Joan recommends we assess our Blue Sky list asking: was the plan met? if not, why? She suggests we review what was on the chart for year one, and hold ourselves accountable. She explained assessment isn't a 'dirty' word and that most organizations assess & review periodically and change direction, if need be. Joan also shared that the lack of follow through on Blue Sky left her feeling stymied, with a sense the council did not progress.

Juliette asked for clarity: who drafted the Blue Sky list; who is the governing body; when was their last meeting? Were various goals simply assigned to respective committees with presumption they'd embrace the task of crafting and implementing a plan to achieve the goals?

Terry asked if we are just presuming or if we know other commissions have studied the chart, realized the time frame, and feel any ownership of goals on the Blue Sky list?

Fred and Demetri expressed, again, their desire to work with Joan, moving forward to reach millennials. Fred reminds us that millennials rely heavily upon social media and asks if our parish is utilizing electronics effectively. Demetri pointed out not only churches but also colleges and businesses all struggle to engage millennials. Juliette suggests checking into archdiocese resources re: millennials.

Fred, suggesting the Blue Sky sub-committee continue meeting over summer, added hope that there is still time for progress, even if the list/time frame is tweaked.

Jane Marie suggested Bryan remind our congregation of the option to receive the bulletin electronically. Andrea pointed out the convenience of receiving the info in advance of the weekend.

Bill, addressing the acoustical dimension of worship, asked to see a copy of sound system recommendations. Dave Larson researched bids ranging from \$15-\$45,000. On April's meeting agenda: our next step toward replacing or moving the speakers.