St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council
Tuesday, September 13, 2022
Cascia Hall East Meeting Room

Members in attendance: Fr. Michael, Ruth Adamczyk, Marilyn Butler, Dave Eberle, Ellie Hammond, Myra Fox, Bill Greinke, Bob Mitchell, Pat Rossman and Jean Weaver. Also, in attendance were Trustees Dennis Collins and Sharon Gierahn.

Excused: Dave Eberle

The opening prayer and lighting of the Christ Candle was led by Father Michael at 7:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Myra Fox to accept the July 12, 2022 minutes as read and it was seconded by Ruth Adamczyk.

**Pastor's Report:** Fr. Michael told us that there has been no activity since the townhall meeting regarding the Monastery. Father mentioned that comments were put on Facebook after the townhall meeting from the parents at the school; indicating that they feel the parish has failed the school as far as building community. Father informed the PPC that he has had conversations with the school Principal and the Chair of the Parent Association and that he has called for a meeting with school parents as a first step in developing positive communication to address their opinions. He will start with a brief history of the school and it's affiliation with the Siena School System, beginning in 2017, and how that process has gone. Father wants to build a bridge with the parent's association and remind them that it is a 2-way street. The meeting notice was sent out in the school newsletter and it will be held on Wednesday, September 21st. The principal Susan Savaglio-Jarvis, and Krysten Dahlgren from the Archdiocese will be attending. Father wants this meeting to be positive meeting. It is thought that most of the school parents, upon hearing of the Townhall meeting , focused on the option for selling the property. They didn't hear, or aren't aware of, the costs associated with the other three options presented at that meeting.
Father pointed out that the Siena School System was created to keep the catholic schools open. Also, that the parishioners need to be made aware of the financials between St. Rita and Siena**.** For instance that Siena pays for 89% of all repairs to the school building and we pay 11% of the total cost.
Comment was offered that perhaps Kristen D might be able to assist us in building the communication between church and school as other parishes must have faced this issue too. Back in 2017 Siena did come to St. Rita and spoke with the parents not the whole parish. Siena has the responsibility to continue with keeping the schools open and functioning. Siena has many benefactors that assist with this and it's also our responsibility to the community to help with this endeavor.
Father reported that the Capital Campaign is moving along nicely. Volunteers are coming forward to assist in the process. There will be a meeting this Thursday, September 15th with the Stewardship Committee and volunteers

**Planning Committee:** Bill suggested that the focus groups will move forward early next year as there is so much going on right now. We have the Stewardship pledge cards going out next month informing parishioners of program and activity opportunities needing their Time/Talent/Treasury; and we have the Love One Another campaign going on too.
Bill addressed Father's concerns about the fact that nothing is being done regarding the Cascia Hall issues. Bill suggested that the PPC take the lead and create a special committee to review and

gather information on realistic options regarding the monastery and how it effects the future of the parish. That this special committee would be commissioned by an executive committee consisting of the Pastor, the two Trustees, and the Chairmen of the Finance & Pastoral Councils. The special committee would be made up of parish and community members with experience and expertise that will allow for the accumulation and assessment of pertinent information to be considered for each option ; ultimately forming recommendations as to how the parish should proceed. This special committee would not have any authority to make offers or commitments. Their purpose would be working in the background; providing specific and pertinent information to parish leadership to consider and ultimately act upon. Final action to include a presentation to the parish and the Pastor for approval Dennis made a motion that the PPC authorize the creation of a special committee to look at the monastery options. The motioned passed and a formation meeting of the executive committee is scheduled at 10:am on Tuesday, September 27th.

**Liaison Reports:** Human Concerns and Stewardship minutes were distributed. There were no questions regarding these.

**Liaisons:** It was mentioned by Myra that at this time everyone should review their liaisons and if you would like to switch now is the time. Pat to update the organizational chart and distribute. Please respond to her email on the committee that you wish to liaison with.

**New Business:**

**Christmas Breakfast:** After some discussion, it was decided to move forward with this event. The suggestion was made to change the event to an Advent Breakfast instead of the Christmas Breakfast. It was determined that this will not be a fund raiser. We need to enjoy each other's company.

**Old Business:**

The annual financials were distributed via email on August 30th for review. There were no questions or comments.

**Upcoming PPC Dates:**

Tuesday, October 11, 2022
Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Tuesday, December 13, 2022

The closing prayer was led by Father Michael at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Rossman
Secretary
St. Rita Parish - Parish Pastoral Council