St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council
Tuesday, April 9, 2023
Church Narthex

Members in attendance: Fr. Michael, Myra Fox, Bill Greinke, Ellie Hammond, Bob Mitchell, Pat Rossman, Mark Schmitz, Jean Weaver and Mary Claire Weisensel. Also in attendance was Trustee Sharon Gierahn.

Excused: Dennis Collins, Dave Eberle and Anna Marie Smetana

The opening prayer was led by Father Michael at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Myra Fox to accept the March 12, 2024 minutes with approved change and it was seconded by Jean Weaver.

Pastor's Report: Father is pleased that the Casia Hall project is continuing to move forward. We cannot make any decisions or actions at this point. However, work needs to continue so we may give the parish some solid information on which direction to go.

Father is also happy to hear that there are groups of parishioners meeting from the 4 parishes that will be consolidated in the near future. Jean asked the question, does Fr. feel that the parishioners have accepted the upcoming changes. As of now, not too much but it is moving in that direction. The biggest concern is the timing of the masses and where will they be.

Father attended the Chrism mass at the cathedral and Fr. Juan was there (he will be the pastor of southern territory) and he attended the priest placement meeting the day before. Fr. Juan did tell Fr. Michael that he will be an associate for the southern section.

An update from Siena School came today that the principle at St. Catherine's is leaving and the Business Manager from Siena was let go. A discussion followed regarding with the reorganization of churches and the effect it will have the Siena Schools in our area.

Bill asked if we have been sent an audit report. Father stated that nothing has been received as yet.

Father mentioned that he felt Holy Week went well and we all agreed. The choir did an excellent job, the washing of the feet was done so nicely. Sharon mentioned that the servers did a great job too. A small discussion followed.

PPC Speakers: Pat has 1 spot left open for Sunday, April 21 @ 8:00a. Jean stepped up and will take that time slot.

At this time, Bill told the Council that he will be resigning from his position at the end of June. Bill sent a letter to Fr. Michael and Fr. Tom regarding his resignation. The other Council members that are done with their terms are: Myra, Bob and Pat.

Bill reported having spoken with Fr. Tom. In that discussion Fr. Tom stated that it was his opinion that he foresees the current PPC will be active for a better part of the year. But, as we all know, things can change at a moment's notice. Bill did extend an invitation to Fr. Tom if he would like to attend one of our meetings for a meet and greet. He said he would check with Fr. Michael. He liked that idea, so this might work out for the June meeting or even meet on another date. He will get back to Bill on this. A discussion arose regarding our meeting in June. It was suggested to move from June 11 to June 4. That way it will not happen the week of the festival.

Mary Claire was asked how the Council will get another Youth Representative when she leaves for college this year. It was suggested that she talk to a possible member about participating. Sharon mentioned that Rachel has been talking to a few people regarding this opportunity. It was suggested that the new Youth Representative start to attend either in August or September.

Liaison Reports:

Bill notified all liaison's that the PPC will be getting more involved in the passing of the budget for SR. It has been requested that all expense requests from the ministries be submitted by April 15. As per the Archdioceses, a non-deficit budget must be submitted to them no later than June 1. If it is a deficit budget they must have it by the first of May. Instead of getting the whole PPC involved in this procedure Bill has asked Bob Mitchell (PFC Liaison), Jean as Vice Chairman, Pat Rossman as Secretary and Dennis as Trustee, Treasurer to meet on April 15. It's our requirement to have the expense requests of the commissions and standing committees at this time.

Bill asked if anyone has a verbal report regarding their liaison committee or standing committee.

Safety and Security: Dave Smetana reported on budget requests for the upcoming year. He will refresh the numbers and resubmit. He also mentioned that the policies are completed along with procedures. He will get these to Bill for review. He also discussed how to get this information out to the parish. A short discussion followed.

Stewardship: Ellie reported that the Archdiocese and Catholic Mutual (our insurance company) determined that Stewardship should not be involved with the fundraising procedures for St. Rita. Ellie has copies of the policies which include: outside fundraisers, non-recurring fundraisers and established fundraisers. These policies should go through either the PFC or PPC for review. All fundraising must go through the procedures of getting approval from one of the councils. A number of years ago there was no organization of fundraising and both school and parish did what they wanted. Dean Landry created the policies that we use back in 2020. Bill was told by Patti Worzalla that the Archdiocese has a policy on fundraising and we should be using that one. Bill tried to locate this on their website and was unable to find it. Patti also suggested that all fundraising requests get submitted to the church office and she will then send them to either the PFC or PPC (which ever Council gets the privilege to approve the fundraising event). Fr. will check with the Arch regarding any fundraising policies.

Also, the Stewardship ministry has organized a meet and greet with the other church ministries in our new Northside Deanery. The response has been more than anticipated and we should have a good turnout for this event. It will be held on Thursday, April 18 at 7:00p in the church narthex.

Royal Parent Association Update: Jean, Sharon, Dan Schrank and Father attended the past meeting. Jean mentioned that she has not received a copy of the minutes as yet because their secretary is on vacation. What she remembers is all the energy and enthusiasm that this RPA has! One of the discussions that came was about the Souls for Catholic Schools walk. This is a huge event for the kids and they loved it. There were some issues that were discussed for the upcoming year. This past year on the planned date it rained so they came up with an alternative date and had it in our SR neighbor. They had a great turnout of kids. This year the Archdiocese (?) would like it back at the Siena Center and the RPA is not real pleased with this. They are concerned that the turnout will not be as great if we move off-site.

One of the other ideas brought up at this meeting is that they would like to put up scripture passages or inspiration sayings in the bathrooms in the school. Father was surprised that they have not contacted the parish to get the approval as the parish owns the building. These sayings will be on vinyl stick-ons. The RPA must run this past the principal as she was not able to attend this meeting.

Human Concerns: Mark brought up the Brown Bag Lunch program and the dates that we will be responsible for are August 10 and November 9. Susan Willing, our Chairman of Human Concerns was thinking that maybe the SR PPC would like to take one of those dates and handle it with our members. It was discussed that this is more of a SR community building event and that it should be open to the parish members to participate. We did give her the go ahead last month to proceed with this event for the parish. The cost of this event will be $200.00 per date. As Mark finds out more details he will pass it along to us.

CHIC: Myra reported that one of the architect group that was scheduled to come to Casia Hall and go through it would not be able to come at all. The firm has pushed the date off many times and now they are too busy. They were to give us suggestions on what we could or could not do regarding a structural point of view. Myra just found out that they could not come this week.

Myra received a text from one of her former swim students of many years that he and his wife would like to go through Casia Hall as they are wedding planners and thought this might be a good venue. They could the wedding and receptions here at the hall. This is in the very early stages of discussion so we will see where this leads. Not only do we need to give our approval but the Archdiocese must give theirs. Michael Laird from the Archdiocese who is our representative that is assisting us with Cascia Hall's future has not been available to talk to. Mitch and Jenna have thought about 10 phases that the venue will go through. A discussion followed.

New Business: Bill mentioned that there will be an Information Booth once again at our festival in June along with the scavenger hunt. The hours would be 12:00p to 4:00p.

It was discussed and approved to move our June 11 PPC meeting to June 4 due to the dates of this year's festival.

Bill mentioned that Bishop Listecki will be retiring and there will be a number of masses in the SE area that he will be performing before he leaves.

Upcoming PPC Dates:

Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Tuesday, June 4, 2024
Tuesday, July 9, 2024

The closing prayer was led by Father Michael at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Rossman
Secretary
St. Rita Parish - Parish Pastoral Council