

ST EUGENE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

2025-2026

Asheville, NC



LOCATION: Ellen Lawson's Home

DATE: June 11, 2026

TIME: 6:00pm

MEETING MINUTES

Participants (P – Present; NP- Not Present)				
Rev. Sabastian (P)	Rev. Dr. Mike Zboyovski (P)	Rev. Dr. John Langlois (NP)	Joe Stritch (Chair, 6/26) (P)	Abel Lomeli-Garcia (Vice Chair, 6/26) (P)
Laurie Zone-Smith, PhD (Secretary, 6/26) (NP)	Betty Lynne Leary (P)	Nathan Lawrence (6/28) (NP)	Dr. Ellen Lawson (6/28) (P)	Vanessa Garcia Hernandez (6/28) (P)
Michael MacCauley (6/26) (NP)	Ginny Raviotta (6/27) (P)	Noe Valdez (6/27) (P)	Dr. Daniel Frayne (6/27) (NP)	Terry Ryan (6/27) (P)
Todd Wilson (6/29) (P)	Yazmin Maldonado (6/29) (P)	Abel Melo-Hernandez (6/29) (NP)	Peter Olynick (6/29) (P)	Mary Selby (6/29) (P)
Jose Jimenez (6/29) (P)				
Guests: Various family members				

I. Call to Order – Abel Lomeli-Garcia 6:32 pm

II. Opening Prayer – Father Sabastian

III. Welcome & Introductions – Abel Lomeli-Garcia

- Ellen hosted the meeting at her home. Thank you to Ellen for her hospitality.
- Abel welcomed everyone. Welcomed all new members and said a final thank you to members who finished their term.
- News of changes in elections for chair, vice-chair, and secretary. Elections to take place at the July meeting.
- Kristi Teske, one of the newly elected council members, resigned the night before, and a vote was made to elect Paula Kotz as a new member.
- Communication made by Terry to obtain name tags for new members. Abel is to communicate with Ellen about purchasing new name tags.

IV. Approval of Minutes (5.12.26) – Skipped until the meeting in July. Both the May and June minutes will be approved in that meeting.

V. Commission Reports

- **Buildings & Facilities** – Nathan Lawrence
 - Submitted report.
 - Pew repair – Ongoing, have repaired most of the worst splits, some more work to do
 - Columbarium Expansion – Terry is working on the project. Sent a comprehensive update to the council.
 - Elevator – The service contract could be renewed. More research to come.
 - Hand Sanitizer – Installed by the altar in response to a suggestion-box suggestion. Easier to get to and won't be a hazard moving forward.
 - Sanctuary return air – Trying to determine if this is a problem needing attention or if this has been there for decades and hasn't been an issue. Condensation from the big unit is moving to a possible area of mold.
- **Education & Formation** – Abel Lomeli-Garcia
 - **Summer Camps**
 - Camp Hidden Lake (Middle School)
 - June 22nd – 27th
 - 19 out of 20 spots are filled! Great effort from Amy and Betty to expand to various churches.
 - Need one male chaperone spot. **Deacon Bradley** could not attend as a chaperone. Reach out to Amy if anyone is willing to chaperone.
 - Camp Covecrest (High School)
 - July 27th – August 1st
 - All 35 high school spots are filled! All chaperones are covered too.
 - Big thank you to everyone for the donations and sponsorships. The goal of \$15,960 has been reached, and we have raised well over that amount. Closer to \$18K!
- **Evangelization & Communications** – Betty Lynne Leary
 - Report Submitted
 - 5/13 – Extend Camp Invites: Received an email from Amy asking if Betty could reach out to other parishes again to see if we could generate interest in the middle school summer camp. E-mailed the Basilica, St. Margaret Mary, and St. Barnabus. Received a response from St. Margaret Mary, who said they would publish the flyer in their bulletin. Suggested to Amy that next year, there is an earlier effort to reach out to neighboring parishes to share the word about summer camp. Or even ask to announce at their masses one weekend.
 - 5/18 – Checked the suggestion box after Monday morning mass and found one suggestion asking if Father Sabastian could get help with confession. She stated that she comes at 4 pm and can't get through the line before Father leaves to get ready for Mass. She left her name and email for a reply. I responded that Father would be doing Wednesday evening confessions, along with adoration, moving forward. I also told her that the Basilica has Saturday morning confession starting at 8:30 and ending whenever everyone has been served.

- 5/20 – Parish Pastoral Planning Committee meeting via Zoom.
 - 5/29 – Ongoing email conversation with the Columbarium Advisory Board concerning policies and by-laws.
 - 6/1 – Collected the forms left in the suggestion box over the weekend. Will also give the new secretary a key to the box.
 - 6/8 – Collected forms left in the suggestion box over the weekend.
- **Liturgy & Worship** – Rev. Dr. Michael Zboyovski
 - No report submitted.
 - Deacon attended a Quarterly Meeting.
- **Outreach (Ecumenism)** – Ginny Raviotta
 - Report submitted.
 - No concerns/needs have been communicated to me from these Ministries since my last report.
- **Parish Life** – Dr. Ellen Lawson
 - Two celebrations within the month – Celebration of Deacon Mike’s 25 years as deacon and Feast of St. Eugene
 - Rick Lober and Joe Stritch led Deacon Mike's celebration.
 - Paula Kotz and the Knights of Columbus helped tremendously. Beautiful Mass for the Feast of St. Eugene. Ministers were not scheduled, but ministers were found! Large attendance with over 250 people. Catering done by “A Catering Couple”. Tablecloths cleaned by Father Sabastian
- **ACS** – Michael McCauley
 - No report. Todd Wilson provided some updates.
 - All grade levels are filled, and there is currently a wait list for the new year.
 - Middle school graduation is covered by Father Sabastian. 18 total 8th graders graduated!
 - Pre-K graduation is covered by **Deacon Bradley**.

VIII. New Business –

- **Suggestion Box** – Betty Lynne Leary
 - Introduction of how suggestions work within the Council and how, this year, there has been an increased effort to reach out to parishioners who left suggestions for follow-up.
 - Need another option for confession. Betty reached out to the parishioner and mentioned the new Wednesday confession option.
 - Flowers in Columbarium – given to Terry (Columbarium Expansion)
 - Vacation Bible School & Fundraising opportunities – given to Abel (Education & Formation).

- Various suggestions – White noise machine during confession, **masses said ad orientem**. Less contemporary music, Latin incorporated in masses, fewer eucharistic ministers – given to Abel
- **Introduction of New Members**
 - Peter Olynick – Member at St. Eugene for 5 years. Was previously at St. Peter's in Charlotte. Part of the morning mass group & Knights of Columbus.
 - Todd Wilson – Teacher at ACS. From St. Gabriel in Charlotte. Worked with Peter for 30 years.
 - Mary Selby – Member of St. Eugene for 19 years. Two daughters have gone through ACS.
 - Jose Jimenez – Member of St. Eugene for 19 years. Involved in the parish and wanting to learn new things
 - Yazmin Maldonado – Married at St. Eugene. Non-Catholic but converted and loved St. Eugene.
 - Abel Melo-Hernandez – Absent, but Abel mentioned to all council members to find him at some point and get to know him.

IX. Closing Prayer – Father Sabastian

X. Adjournment – Abel @ **6:59 pm**

XI. Next Council meeting: July 9th. Finalizing date and reservations