

St. Michael's Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes – Thursday December 15, 2016

Attendance: Father Murray Sample, Peter Valiquet, Father Don Pumputis, Joanne Zwolski, Larry McKenzie, Howie Wright, Donna Thompson, Mark Thompson, Wayne Wolanski, Darlene MacKenzie, Lola Gualtieri, Marinette Laureano, Yana Adkinson, Sylain Patry

Absent: Michael Theriault

Opening Prayer and Reflection

Review and Approval of Minutes from November 24, 2016 meeting. Darlene MacKenzie suggested that changes to the minutes be identified in **bold** type to make the revisions easier to identify. This was agreed to by Council.

New Business

There was discussion regarding the new parish website. The Council concurred that the new website has come a long way in functionality and use; however, there are still minor adjustments and tweaking required in some areas. Darlene MacKenzie indicated that Goal III, regarding Parish Council's strategic plan update for 2016, needs to be bolded as it looks like it belongs currently to Goal II. The form for Baptism may need some attention as families are confusing dates when completing the form. Even though First Reconciliation and First Communion registration is "closed", the website is still allowing applications **to** be completed. Currently there is no way to **interrupt** this application even after the deadline date has passed.

Parish Council Minutes will be posted to the website once approved. The timeline for archiving the minutes is still to be determined.

The proposed grouping for St. Michael's Parish is St. Andrew's and Christ the King. The proposal deems the use of the Chapel at Windermere on the Mount concluding at the end of 2017. This leads us to discern how we can assist Christ the King Parish in their care for students at King's and main campus. Further discussion will take place at a later date on this item.

HVAC installation is complete. There is some painting to be completed. A cleaning crew is expected next week. There was an issue regarding an area of a "rolling floor" which has been fixed.

Council discussed offering a refresher course for AED training. Doug Manners will be approached regarding the functionality of offering and updating this training.

St. Michael's recently hosted a presentation regarding legislation on "Assisted Dying". This presentation was well attended and thought to have been very informative. The "Assisted Dying" presentation could be offered at another date.

Council discussed the practicality of parishioners subscribing to pre-authorized giving. Forms are available in the pews or at the welcome desk. Pre-authorized giving can also be completed on the Parish website. Council discussed the potential benefit of our youth witnessing “Tithing” in action during Mass.

Finance Committee Update: Current Parish balance is \$48,500. An HST rebate of \$27,000 is expected. The Parish is required to pay the diocese \$9,500 in loan interest. There were some unbudgeted expenses related to our new Hymnals, cancellation of our current internet **provider** and new winter mats and runners.

Pastoral Team Updates:

Yana reported that 130 students made their First Reconciliation under the guidance of four priests. Two training sessions were held and ten new Eucharist minister have been trained. RCIA is going well and new candidates and catechumens are meeting after conclusion of the gospel readings for “Breaking open the word”. Yana has been busy preparing for holiday Liturgy and encouraged us all to participate where possible. Yana coordinated Training for new Eucharistic ministers, updated information to the Ministry Scheduler Pro and interviewed potential volunteers for children’s ministries. Yana also met with the leader of the “Women of Grace” educational initiative.

Syl Patry concurred that things are going **well**. Syl has ongoing class visits related to Confirmation preparation. “Edge” is hosting a Christmas Party on December 21, 2015. There is a Parish skate planned for February.

Father Don is continuing with his classroom visits and discusses vocations with the students.

Father Murray attended the schools for Advent Celebrations. All but one school had Advent celebrations. Father Murray expressed that he encountered many blessed moments during his First Reconciliation preparation with the young students of our community.

Closing prayer and Christmas pleasantries

Next meeting will take place January 19, 2017