



**Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Father Peter Grace, CP
Monday, August 16, 2021**

Members: Father Peter Grace, Colleen Ayres, Karen Blair, Francisco Cucue, Martin Dramou, Mike Ellison, Hatciri Lopez, George Lozano, Marco Maya, Anne Miller, Catherine Orji, Dean Penny, Kevin Pilotte, Yolanda Sanchez, Stephanie Satkowiak, Ruth Silva, Sean Skelly, Jon Soika

Youth Members: Melina Hernandez-Campos, Ashley Ramirez

Recording Secretary: Laci Conrad

Members Excused: Martin Dramou, Marco Maya

Members Absent: George Lozano, Francisco Cucue

Opening Prayer: Catherine Orji

Guests: none

**Approval of
(June and July)
Minutes:**

June minutes: Mike Ellison made a motion to approve with one minor spelling correction; Stephanie Satkowiak seconded the motion; all approved.

July minutes: Mike Ellison made a motion to approve; Anne Miller seconded the motion; all approved.

Youth Report: Melina Hernandez-Campos, Ashley Ramirez

- The youth group had their annual camp night on August 5th which went well and included games, a talk from Ben Albanese about Adoration, and holy hour.
- The August 11th youth group session had separate activities for boys and girls.
- On August 14th there was a concert to support the NCYC trip.
- The group is meeting this week to plan the agenda for the rest of August and September.
 - 20 youth are planning to participate in the NCYC trip.



**Finance Report &
Campus Updates:**

Dean Penny

- **Mosaics**
 - Blessed on July 26th (Dean welcomes feedback).
- **St. Ann Columbarium** – 49 niches (sold to date)
 - Construction will begin August 2021.
 - 5–6 month lead time for the niches.
- **Lighting project**
 - Phase 1 of the lighting project was completed the week of 8/9.
 - The next phase of the project is to update the lighting controls.
- **Church Projector Project**
 - The electrical work has been completed. The lease approval for the projectors will begin the week of 8/16.
 - The projectors will be installed Fall 2021.
- **Storage Building project**
 - The wetlands have been assessed and the storage building may need to be moved to the other side of the sheds.
 - The goal is to get the pad poured by the end of the year.
- **Land next to the church is on the market (62 acres; 40 acres are developable)**
 - Goal: To secure about 10-15 acres for a potential school (K-8).
 - Several questions were posed to Dean about the possibility of a school, and he emphasized that a lot is unknown at this point as they are in the exploratory stage. He is holding an interest meeting and will know more in the next few weeks. There is potential for a school to start as an LLC due to the wait time for discussions with the Diocese (two-year wait).
 - Dean noted that the Diocese will loan us money for the land, but he is working on getting the 10-15 acres of land donated.
- **Mosaic Fundraising for Phase 3 of the lighting**
 - Dean has a variety of mugs, shirts, cards, and Christmas ornaments (mosaic themed) that will be sold in the upcoming weeks to help raise money for phase 3 of the lighting project.

BAA Update:

Anne Miller

- Our BAA goal has been met.
- The committee will meet in a few weeks to celebrate and discuss best practices and challenges.
- Anne and her team members will have a table at the ministry fair to gain volunteers for next year's appeal.



Faith Formation: Report provided by Jon Soika on behalf of Lupe Vila

- As of 8/13, there are 445 individuals registered for Faith Formation including RCIA.
 - There are 355 registrants who are preparing for a sacrament.
- We need Confirmation Catechists on Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 - We have a total of 64 Catechist.
- Faith formation classes will take place as follows:
 - Saturday sessions 5:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. (English)
 - Sunday sessions 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (English)
 - 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Spanish)
 - RCIA 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. (English)
 - Wednesday Confirmation sessions from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (only in English)
 - Still looking for volunteers (especially male catechists for Confirmation)
- Feedback from Mike Ellison: He noted that the enrollment numbers are up from last year and there are less breaks in the schedule this year which equates to better continuity. The end of the faith formation year will be prior to Palm Sunday.
 - Start date for Faith Formation is September 12th (the weekend after Labor Day)
 - Mike discussed the number of faith formation registrants, and that the majority are for sacraments. Mike feels that the parish needs to do a better job of giving parents information about the importance of continued faith formation even if their child(ren) is not in a sacramental year.
 - Dean mentioned the subscription service that was purchased from the St. Augustine Institute which includes movies and content (English and Spanish) for children and adults.
 - Adult faith formation will resume on September 12th (the first 7 weeks is the Search series)
 - The sessions will include a video with discussion questions.

Domestic Abuse Ministry:

Stephanie Satkowiak

- Stephanie shared her professional role with the committee as a State Domestic Specialist responsible for litigating criminal and civil domestic abuse cases.
- Proposed: She inquired about assistance from St. Ann's as a place to help Harbor (local Domestic Violence shelter in Johnston County) and connect our faith-based community to support victims of domestic abuse.
- Council discussion included connecting with the social worker (she is only working virtually) and Ruth shared her stories about the hopelessness of these individuals as she has worked with abused men and women. Stephanie's vision includes posters on the bathroom doors, using messaging in the bulletin, sharing resources such as national and state hotlines, and the contact information for Harbor. Anne is willing to help, and Stephanie has asked her contact, Kay at Harbor to come to St. Ann's and meet with an interested group to discuss next steps. Further discussion included how the food pantry and health clinic may be supportive avenues. Father gave his support of connecting people with resources. To begin, Stephanie, Anne, and Ruth will



connect with Harbor to begin a dialogue about ways St. Ann can support Harbor's efforts. Final discussion included the need to be cognizant of St. Ann's liability in this ministry and being mindful of our responsibility to the community. The continued safety of everyone on the parish campus was highlighted.

Parish Visioning

Discussion:

Anne Miller

• **Kickoff: periodic discussion – New Council Members**

- Anne proposed a periodic parish visioning discussion which includes reviewing the mission statement, role of the Pastoral Council members (advise Father Peter on the needs of the parish and prioritize these needs).
- Anne would like the members to collectively discuss each member's vision (i.e. expansion of the church, Columbarium, school, etc.), both short and long term for the church. She used the following guided questions, "What do we want to be that we are not today? How can we be bigger and better?"
 - Several council members shared their vision:
 - **Dean**
 - Think larger than the buildings. Think about children being engaged in faith formation.
 - **Anne**
 - Only 13% of families participated in the BAA.
 - She sees us as getting better at integrating cultures at St. Ann's.
 - **Mike**
 - Have the staff gotten a raise? (Yes, last year and this year)
 - Are we staffed adequately? (Two open requisitions have recently been filled and the parish is working on reviewing resumes to fill the open Communication position. Dean is confident that it will be filled this month).
 - Discussion: Mike feels that we are understaffed in comparison to the size of our parish. Mike noted that other parishes have an elementary, middle, and high school coordinator for faith formation. He shared the need for the parish personnel to be appreciated.
 - Dean will research the numbers regarding staff in surrounding parishes. Dean agreed that the staff are under-appreciated and under-paid. Lupe and Dean discussed the faith formation enrollment numbers and the unpredictability of registrants which drives staffing. The recent budget discussion included an increase for investing in the youth (conferences, etc.). A commitment to personnel is our largest line item in the budget.



- **Catherine**
 - She noted that newcomers need to feel invested and that there is a lack of orientation at the church. She envisions a membership orientation for new parishioners to learn more about the church and how they can participate.

 - **Ruth**
 - Suggested offering newcomers a guide of all the ministries and giving them a tour of the church when they register.
 - Dean advised that there is a welcoming committee, but he is not sure where they are at.
 - Louise Lupo and Joyce Lisi are organizing a ministry fair (Good Shepherd Fair) in the next few months.
 - Mike brought up a point that some new parishioners are not registered. How do they get a Welcome Packet? How are they captured?

 - **Hatrici**
 - Discussed her vision which includes knowing the Lord and wanting to help others. Are we evangelizing? Going to Mass is not enough.
- Moving forward, Anne would like active participation in this ongoing dialogue and asked all members to think about our vision.

Other Concerns: Kevin Pilotte

- Papal Flag was faded; new one was put up by the Knights of Columbus
- Discussed the location of the Vigil light. It was noted that the tabernacle is being finished, and it will be relocated. There are many changes taking place in the sanctuary.

Remarks from the Pastor: Father Peter

- Encouraged dialogue among the council members as it brings about positive change in the church.
- Agrees with Mike that we are understaffed and that we are doing our best to highlight different issues.
- Acknowledged that the harvest is vast and more needs to be done. He recognizes progress is made when the right people are engaged in a cause.
- Thanked members for their contributions and acknowledged the need to work together.

Closing Remarks: Jon Soika

- Jon asked members to reach out about agenda items as he, Anne, and Father Peter begin planning two weeks before the upcoming council meeting and they welcome agenda items from members.

ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH

August 16, 2021



Closing Prayer: Ashley Ramirez

Next meeting is Monday, September 20th at 7 PM

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Laci Conrad