

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
Annunciation, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, St. Stephen
Meeting Minutes

Date: 12-01-2020

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Virtual by Zoom/ in person at St. Francis Xavier, Sartell.

X Adam Vonderahe
X Chuck Spychala
X Frank Rajkowski
X Joan Krause
X Shirley Scapanski

Z Candice Koopmeiners
— Fr. Ron Weyrens
— Jean Bemboom
X Dcn Joe Kresky
X Stef Rothstein

X Carol Hellmann
X Fr. Tom Knoblach
X Jeff Brunn
X Leonard Popp

A.7:05pm Welcome and opening prayer by Stefanie.

B. Review 11.10.20 Minutes: should have read before meeting. Stefanie added her changes by her name already (was not at the last meeting)/additions. No other changes.

C. S.M.A.R.T. Plan & Sub-Committees:

1) Representation in sub-committees: Jeff B. to Evangelization
Stef left the original alone. Started new folder for Evangelization.

Entire folder should be in the One in Christ Cloud so more people will
Have access to add/change etc... Info in those folders.

Jeff & Joan – Are in need of one person from Sacred Heart to be on the
Evangelization Committee, Fr. Ralph was on it before he retired.

- a. Stewardship: Stef, Leonard, Adam, Father Tom, and Joan.
- b. Young Adult: Dcn Joe, Fr. Ron, Frank, Jean
- c. Evangelization: Shirley, Candice, Carol, Jeff

Joan – Bulletin blurb – hand with heart *Joyce O'Driscoll and Jackie Popp sending text every weekend. Feed little bits and pieces at a time.

Joan ordered books for leadership (to be given to Parish Councils, Finance Councils and Employees) *Recommends each read and discuss the books. Next: coming up with a resource on how to explain Stewardship to parishioners. How do we allow respective parishes to inspire each parish to take this on and make changes? Needs to be flexible for individual parishes. Need to buy into this educational message. Implementing it will be interesting.

Stef said Jackie is having a difficult time not having something to refer to. Need to try and come up with a couple of things. Build a brand – kind of like marketing. Beginning stages – see how to make it work.

Leonard – Meetings (Pastoral /Finance) were all postponed. Might have to wait till January.

Stef – Every Parish is doing it at their own pace.

C. S.M.A.R.T. Plan:

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
Annunciation, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, St. Stephen
Meeting Minutes

a. Stewardship cont.

Fr Tom mentioned we should get a uniform presentation from the committee and Then present to all councils.

Fr. Tom also asked how many ACC's are working on Stewardship as one of their Goals? Should learn best practices from across the Diocese. Who has done it well and learn from them and leapfrog. The Diocese has this info.

COMMUNICATION More is less – has been 1-way communication. Need to open it up to both ways

Stef – Ideas overlap. Identify a way to share info. 1 way to communicate – make it easy.

Adam – Nothing much to add. The 4 parishes could hire one person to work on this.???? Challenging when we are working separately. Scramble to get info out. Using different mediums. St. Francis doesn't feel they are doing a great job at this right now. Just a thought about hiring someone.

Stef – Communication is a must. Clear and get out to as many people as possible.

Fr. Tom – Some parishes haven't even seen goals yet. Other parishes are way ahead. We are in the middle.

b. Young Adult

Deacon Joe – took a bit to get everyone together in their group. They hope to meet this Thursday.

History – what each is doing in the future – do we work together or have one leader/organizer? Brainstorm opportunities.

c. Evangelization Shirley, Carol, Candice, Jeff.

Candice – Brochure has been printed and mailed. Sacred Heart was short and are waiting on extras. The final draft of the "Welcome" letter in in shared docs. Hoping to send out during Lent.

Jackie put together letter for phone calling (tip sheet). Candice sent out an e mail to go over how the phone calling will go.

Shirley – reminding everyone that Lent starts Feb. 15th – so not much time to get Together.

Carol – she thought everyone covered it all.

Dcn Joe – is discernment involved? Good question. Need to work on how and Who they are targeting? He has been doing phone calling in their parish to show Support and hear prayers. He has been learning a lot with these calls.

Stef – starting small – do you have a plan on who and when you are calling.

Candice – trying to target the unengaged parishioners. Need to be careful on How this is done because people talk to each other and will wonder why they Were called when someone else might not be.

Stef – data collection piece – how do we keep track of the info collected?

Candice – Need to discuss more at their next meeting.

C. S.M.A.R.T. Plan:

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
Annunciation, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, St. Stephen
Meeting Minutes

c. Evangelization cont.

Leonard – Minutes in bulletin – update released last week, was there a problem with the schedule? When they release the information how does it get into the bulletin?

Adam – He said he is the pipeline. He passes it on to Jane Rennie to put in the bulletin. Schedule for the bulletin was goofed up because of Thanksgiving schedule. Need information by Wednesday to get it into that week's bulletin.

Leonard – Thank you for clarification.

2. Parish council Updates:

a. Annunciation was postponed

b. Sacred Heart:

Dcn Joe – RCIA was ready to get all parishes together – Sacred Heart has 5 candidates – there are none from other parishes. Shelby(?), Fr. Ron and Dcn Joe met about Baptism classes – working with all parishes.

Stef – Do we keep Evangelization, RCIA, and Baptism all together or separate?

c. St. Francis Xavier:

Adam – met on the 19th. Met in person. Good attendance. Fr. Ron and Adam showed “Harvest of Hope” video and shared Fr. Tom’s write up about what parish councils should look like. No meeting in Dec. Meeting scheduled for the 3rd or 4th week in January.

d. St. Stephen:

Carol: Met half in person and half Zoom. Fr. Ron talked about the letter and Brochure.

Stef – Fr. Ron mentioned something about data collection or inventory of what they have been doing well. The 3 of them were not at the last ACC meeting. (Chuck, Carol & Stef). Apprehensions of grabbing hold of new things.

Carol – mentioned that a few on their council do not have internet.

Dcn Joe: Social Concerns – meeting with Sartell on Thursday.

3. A.C.C. Planning Committee Terms and Transitions:

Committee to Joint Pastoral Councils? What will this look like? Do we want to make term limits? No one thought these ACC positions would last forever.

Next Steps? Decisions? Directions?

ACC Planning Committee and Pastoral Councils will be making decisions together.

Fr Tom asked Brenda – no guidance from the Diocese. They are looking at a timeline and thinking about the Constitution and By-laws. Current By-laws and combined into ACC Pastoral Council *Need to be approved by the Chancery. Before these are formed – a draft should be sent to the Vicar General.

3. ACC Planning Committee Terms and Transitions cont.

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
Annunciation, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, St. Stephen
Meeting Minutes

Brenda could send us examples of how this looks from other ACC groups.

Suggest we talk about this – then do a passing of the torch, a type of ritual of sorts moving to the transition.

Make a decision and then decide when it should be done. Make a timeline. It could be as soon as a couple of months if we work hard at this.

Original deadline was June 2021. Expectations went out in March because of COVID.

All deadlines have disappeared.

Fr. Tom – too quick – would like to do careful and quality work.

(Factor – Bishop Kettler is 76 – COVID slowed things down, but we are expecting a new Bishop at some point). We need to have the conversation – deadline is not important – doing it right is.

Dcn Joe commented that he is happy to have such a Wise woman for his wife 😊

Stef – Yes, we should have a goal as a joint Pastoral Council that we have a ritual of getting all pastoral councils together.

Dcn.Joe – Would be nice to get everyone together.

Joan – Appreciative of getting copies of what others have done and look at each other's by-laws.

Fr. Tom – Hear from other ACC's – what is their authority of this group. Original Pastoral Councils have always been Advisory!

Brenda – "Buck stops with the Pastor". Council advises the pastor. Goal settings: Cost is one level – Finance Council.

Frank – There are some legal consequences too.

Dcn Joe – There would be some legal but collaborate with each individual parish.

Yes – Joint employees – collaborate staff etc...

Fr. Tom – Carefully and Contractually, works well when friends.

Frank – Once COVID is over, we should get together with all parishes and work on this.

Fr. Tom – Flexibility with schedule to work on this.

Frank – doesn't think it is working doing it on zoom.

Joan – Adam and Fr. Ron talked with their council about this. We should all do this with our individual councils. Discuss their responsibilities and what they would look like when combined.

Stef – Good Conversations! At St. Stephen we would first have to get everyone on board. Having these tough conversations on Zoom is hard. But we need to plant the seed. How do you see this? Need to take ownership of this.

Next question – How does this look for this committee?

Fr. Tom – Committee from ACC to discuss. Frank, Fr. Tom, Leonard and Brenda would consult with this group to discuss.

Look to some best practices from other diocese.

Stef – Thank you for volunteering to come up with a vision Chuck, Fr. Tom, Leonard and Brenda.

Communication Efforts

AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
Annunciation, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Xavier, St. Stephen
Meeting Minutes

Leonard – Communication within the larger ACC – lots of people. Leonard is a member at large – missing some of the sup committees – little groups are a part of the larger group. They need to be aware of the discussion that are being had by them – unless someone lets Leonard know that a certain discussion has taken place – he has no idea. Need to let everyone know what has been discussed. (Staff members at large – ACC group) Important to keep everyone informed.

Stef – thinks since the conception of this planning committee, everyone has tried to be transparent. Using printed – bulletins, websites, social media. The meetings have been shared. ? communication amongst us?

Leonard – thinks the ACC committee is doing a good job of getting information out there.

Next group – Evangelization, Stewardship, Youth, Parish Council – need to pass on.

Need to send Leonard Parish Council Minutes

Everyone should not add to the disconnect!

Joan – Do our best to get information out there and access to information. Keep everyone informed as possible.

Dcn Joe – Candice would send/pass on information and he appreciates her doing this.

Stef – Foundation of Communication & Information. Increase who we reach out to. Set up sending out information.

Candice – Leonard and I have been doing the bulletin points for the last year and a half. Would like to be done.

Joan – wants to think about doing them. She appreciates them for doing this up till now.

Stef – Mentioned that Cindy is ready to be done taking the minutes for the ACC meetings.

Shirley – Mentioned the time 8:27pm

Adam - #4 – Mark fell ill –

Stef – communicate with Mark on the next meeting.

Adam – brought up the thought of maybe hiring someone to do the communication for the ACC. Has not looked into this yet – just started the thought process.

Stef – Next meeting – January 5th at 7:00pm (Virtual?)

Meeting ended at 8:30pm