

St. Martha's Pastoral Parish Council

MEETING MINUTES – February 21, 2019



PURPOSE: *To assist the pastor and the faithful to exercise their joint ministries in building up the Kingdom of God in St. Martha's Parish, Lethbridge.*

PLACE: St. Martha Parish – Parish Library

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

In attendance:

- Father William Monis
- Bruce Barnett (Chair)
- Anisha Gatner (Secretary)
- Lisza Bruder
- Therese Munroe
- John Novak
- Pat Spiess
- Nicole Wilson
- Dan Wyton
- Marc Royer (Presenter)
- Jeanette Cheshire (Office Staff Representative)

Regrets:

- Deacon Michael Pollard
- Tom Jepp
- Mardi Renyk

| | Agenda Item |
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| 1) Call to Order | <p>The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.</p> <p>Opening Prayer – John Novak read the daily Gospel. Discussion ensued.</p> |
| 2) Additions / Approval of Agenda and Past Minutes | <p>Motion to approve the February 21, 2019 Agenda, as amended <i>Moved by John Novak. Seconded by Daniel Wyton. Carried.</i></p> <p>The following items were added to the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5e) Mass for Father Hagel - New Business 5f) Mass at Seniors Homes 5g) Announcements <p>Motion to approve the January 17, 2019 Minutes, as presented. <i>Moved by John Novak. Seconded by Pat Spiess. Carried.</i></p> |
| 3) Presentation: Marc Royer | <p>a) Altar / Crucifix Redesign</p> <p>During Bishop McGrattan's visit he suggested three changes to St. Martha's current facility: a larger altar, that the tabernacle be moved into the main church, and that a crucifix that can be connected to the wall be sought out.</p> <p>As Mr. Peter Mueller headed an aesthetic design committee early in the parish's previous design, he has been asked if he would like to assist in future design. He has indicated that he does not wish to lead such a committee at this time. It was instead recommended that the parish be canvassed for individuals with interest / talent in decorating/design.</p> |

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| | <p>b) Auto Debit</p> <p>Marc noted that 60 people have switched to auto debit, 10 of whom have never had a tax receipt previously. Tentatively, parish revenue has increased by approximately \$4000, though information will need to be collected for a longer time period to assess true results. Parishioners will be thanks for their support of this program at an upcoming Mass.</p> <p>Next, a letter will be distributed to west side schools to invite parents to consider the auto debit solution, pending superintendent approval.</p> <p>c) Church Fundraiser</p> <p>A very tentative plan has been set into place to host a wine and cheese tour where parishioners can buy at auction an area in the parish that requires maintenance / repair. June 15, 2019 has been set aside as the date for this event.</p> |
| <p>4) Ongoing Business</p> | <p>a) Jason Evert Presentation Debrief</p> <p>It was estimated that somewhere between 300 -500 individuals were in attendance, which, since the event corresponded with Superball Sunday and a particularly snowy evening, was noted to be an excellent turnout. Feedback provided included that some were frustrated that Mr. Evert was late for the event as a result of travelling in inclement weather and that there seemed to be some confusion that the event was intended for individuals 13 years of age and older. Nonetheless, most in attendance appreciated his message and engaging style.</p> <p>It was also expressed that the efforts of many volunteers had made this event so successful; especially Karl and Stacy Airey, Father Roque, Bruce Barnett, and Mark and Adele Royer. The significant donation received from Mr. Cor Van Raay was also appreciated. John Novak volunteered to write a letter of appreciation on behalf of the council.</p> <p>b) FORMED /Word on Fire</p> <p>Discussion ensued about either re-subscribing the parish to “FORMED” or considering pursuing a subscription to “Word on Fire,” which has engaging Catholic content from Bishop Robert Barron. “Word on Fire” currently has a deal that, if a year-long subscription is acquired for \$197 USD per month, a free Lenten period will be added. As for “FORMED,” Jeanette has been in conversation with them so that a year-long subscription would be reduced to \$875 USD.</p> <p>After discussing the pros and cons of each system, it was determined that a subscription with “FORMED” would be pursued for this year.</p> <p>c) Lenten Mission</p> <p>Daniel and Lisza offered to select a series of videos found on FORMED and will further facilitate discussion around these videos for a 3-hour long sessions for three nights during Lent; March 24, 25, and 26.</p> |

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| | <p>Therese further indicated that she may be able to arrange for Michael Parra to assist with the parish's Advent Mission next year.</p> <p>d) Parish Communication – Websites/Working Group</p> <p>Plans are underway to meet with some individuals in the parish who may be interested in helping to develop an updated website for the parish. It was suggested that having a means of embedding payment options/donations for Together in Action on the site may be beneficial.</p> <p>e) Ministry Liaison Updates (Maintenance Committee)</p> <p>It was clarified that the maintenance committee was on the ministry liaison list and that the parish staff are the committee's primary contacts.</p> <p>f) Together in Action (TIA) – New Campaign</p> <p>The 2018 TIA campaign has completed. St. Martha's is still \$5000 short of its obligation. The new campaign begins this Lent. It was noted that individuals direct their auto debit payments towards TIA. Also, it was suggested that \$200 in loose cash donations be forwarded to TIA over this coming year.</p> <p>A new thermometer graphic to help track and depict parish donations will be created and left by the statue of St. Martha on Friday so that parishioners are aware of it.</p> <p>g) Parish Council Recruitment</p> <p>Pat Spiess indicated that this will be her last PPC meeting. She was thanked for her amazing service to the PPC. She further noted that Lisza Bruder and Jocelyn Martinez have volunteered to serve on PPC.</p> |
| <p>5) New Business</p> | <p>a) St. Martha 25th Anniversary Celebration (June 19, 2019)</p> <p>Bruce, Therese, and Jeanette volunteered to form a committee that would begin work on how best to celebrate St. Martha's Silver Anniversary, potentially working with the Maintenance Committee on their pending fundraiser.</p> <p>b) AGM Detail Confirmation</p> <p>The AGM will be held on May 5, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the Gathering Space. PPC members are asked to continue collecting reports from the various ministries.</p> <p>c) Parish Council Stations of the Cross (March 29, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.)</p> <p>Parish staff have requested that PPC take the lead on the Stations of the Cross on March 29, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. PPC were in favour of this. It was further recommended that soup be served. It was suggested that this be done before the stations, starting at 6:00 p.m. in the gathering space. (POST NOTE: Jennifer apprised that some ministries were having difficulty with this obligation. Father determined that no soup would be served this year, as a result).</p> |

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| | <p>Anisha and Pat agreed to assist with music. Nicole, John and Daniel volunteered to read. Anisha and Therese volunteered to be candle bearers. Bruce volunteered to carry the Cross.</p> <p>d) Pastoral Initiatives – Ideas/Budget</p> <p>It was noted that a projector and screen in the church may be helpful in aiding future events, as well as helping music ministry.</p> <p>Lisza indicated that she has many suggestions for upcoming speakers at various times of the year. Bruce requested that she set up a list for PPC review.</p> <p>e) Mass for Father Hagel</p> <p>Mass in Father James Hagel’s honour will be held on May 26, 2019 at 11 a.m., with an opportunity to share memories and stories after.</p> <p>f) Mass at Seniors Homes</p> <p>Father has been approached by parishioners indicating that they would prefer, on Wednesdays, to have consistent Mass at 9 a.m. before he goes to Good Samaritans and Columbia House. Nicole Wilson suggested that it may be very possible for students from Children of St. Martha and Father Leonard Van Tighem Schools to join the 10 a.m. Masses at these facilities to assist.</p> <p>g) Announcements</p> <p>It was brought to the PPC’s attention that some are making announcements after Mass without first requesting this from Father/ Parish staff.</p> |
| <p>6) Reports</p> | <p>a) Youth Ministry Report</p> <p>The report was attached for PPC review.</p> <p>b) Parish Picnic</p> <p>Children of St. Martha School has been booked for September 15, 2019.</p> <p>c) Eyes and Ears – PPC Update / Sharing</p> <p>No additional items were brought forward.</p> |
| <p>7) Blessing and Adjournment</p> | <p>The PPC shared in the closing, “Stewardship Prayer.”</p> <p>The meeting of February 21, 2019 was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.</p> |