

Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes of September 26, 2017 Meeting
Ministry Center

Present: Father Ryan, Laura Angelini, Pam Lynch, Thomas Purtell, Kyle Schmitt, Jason Sfire, John Sfire, Marty Bush, Stewart Tanakatsubo

Absent: Mike Carlino (excused), Terry Huels, Patricia Linares (excused), Jim Battaglia, John Ergastolo (excused)

Note Taker: Julie Morones, Parish Staff

The Renew My Church prayer was offered by Father Ryan to begin the meeting.

1. Congratulations

Father Ryan offered congratulations to Tom Purtell for Diaconate Studies and to Pam Lynch who just completed her Masters degree and accepted the position of Director of Youth Ministry and Young Adult Formation in our parish.

2. Fix It Campaign

Jason Sfire distributed a handout which included before and after pictures of the projects completed as of this date. He and John Sfire provided an update to the PPC on the **FIX-IT Together** campaign which included the following items:

- a. There was discussion regarding the actual budgeted amounts versus the actual dollar amounts spent on projects completed thus far. Total savings from the original total budgeted amount is expected to be significant, even including the completion of added projects.
- b. Jason and John Sfire pointed out the main reason for the savings was due to *value engineering* (finding a more efficient way to complete a project). An example given was redoing the roofs and turning a three step process into one step. This also applied to redoing the school and ministry building parking lots and completing them in four days versus a couple of weeks. This was possible by the contractor bringing in several machines versus two machines which involved one staging rather than several.
- c. Additional projects were able to be completed that were not in the initial plan due to the cost savings thus far which included replacing the roofs on the west side and chapel of the church, installing a new HVAC unit in the church, and the installation of new safety doors and related accessories at the school.
- d. Future projects were discussed which include the demolition and removal of the old church, creation of a Cross using bricks from the old church marking the location of the original church's altar, construction of a storage building, replacement of the church flooring, replacing lightbulbs at the church, and repaving the back school parking lot. A suggestion was also made to add fans to the church roof for efficiency in circulation.

- e. It was discussed and decided that an update will go out to parishioners regarding the improvements that have been completed. Marty Busch and Tom Purtell will work on this letter.

3. Fix-It Finances:

Laura Angelini passed out a sheet showing the finances as of September 26, 2017. The total pledges to date are \$922,180 with 600 donors, which equates to an average of about \$1,500 per donor. The sale of the bequeathed property has been finalized, and the Parish is now awaiting the receipt of the funds.

4. School Enrollment:

- a. Kyle Schmitt, parish school principal, provided the PPC with an update on the school enrollment numbers and distributed a sheet giving a breakdown of students enrolled in each grade. He pointed out that enrollment is significantly increased at the preschool level, and this is important and positive for the school, hopefully leading to higher enrollment in upper grades. He also indicated that the school lost a portion of 5th graders from last year mainly due to many families transitioning to Lake Zurich D95 schools.
- b. Kyle Schmitt also discussed marketing plans to increase enrollment which include promoting growth numbers shown through ASPIRE test scores. St. Francis de Sales School ranks in the upper 50% metric as reflected in their test scores. Also, during his recent visit to Carmel Catholic High School this week, students graduating from our school have an average 3.75 G.P.A.

5. 2017 – 2018 Marketing Plan:

- a. Tom Purtell and Marty Bush distributed a summary of the marketing plan and summarized the main points which included the Executive Summary, planned marketing strategies, and marketing tactics.
- b. The group brainstormed ideas such as using favorable student/teacher ratios and class sizes, ASPIRE scores, lower tuition costs relative to other private schools, alumni that have continued to attend colleges and universities and have obtained graduate and post graduate degrees, to market the school to increase enrollment.
- c. Father Ryan indicated that he already provided marketing materials to the surrounding area daycare centers and realtors during the summer with the help of our College summer interns.
- d. Vouchers and scholarships can help enrollment for families in need.

6. Evangelization through Intentional Discipleship:

Pam Lynch gave a brief summary about the new Intentional Discipleship initiative. This is based on adult formation, being led by Deacon Keith Strohm, with weekly meetings and some half day mini retreats. Meetings will be held Tuesday evenings from October 2017 through April of 2018.

Further details and continued development of this PPC initiative will be submitted at the next meeting. There is an Intentional Discipleship Planning opening meeting October 3 in the Ministry Center with Deacon Keith Strohm.

7. PPC concluded with the Lord's Prayer.