

**Church of Saint Mary Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes  
April 26, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Russell at 4:30 p.m.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Sonya Skinner (3), Tammy Huss (3), Steve Russell (2), Megan Bristow (2), Dawn Houska (2) Mike Sponsler (1), Tabatha Odens (1), Mary Jane Reif (1), Father Steve Binsfeld, Todd Wentworth, Francie Peterson and Carol Gaffaney. **Absent:** Dan Hilback (3).

**Opening Prayer**

Father Steve led the opening prayer.

**Agenda and Minutes**

The agenda for April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting and the minutes of the March 22, 2018 meeting were approved by consensus.

**Purpose of Pastoral Councils** – Mike Sponsler and Mary Jane Reif led discussion on chapters 11 and 14 of “Making Parish Councils Pastoral.” This concludes review of the book.

**Administrative Report** – Father Steve reported that Father Al Ludwig’s health has declined greatly this week and his caretaker has asked for prayers on his behalf.

**Church Policies** – Todd Wentworth presented the revised Facilities Use and Rental Policy. He has reviewed the policy with staff members. Discussion was held by council members and there was consensus on its approval. Todd noted that new chairs for the Great hall are on order.

**Facility Update** – A new chiller has been ordered for the church. A video & sound system is being purchased for installation in the Great Hall. This expenditure was not in this year’s budget, however, it is being funded by a non-budgeted bequest that was received in February. At the time of installation, the company will also look at the two sound systems in the church (the ‘speaking’ speaker and the ‘music’ speaker) with a goal of having them more effective and balanced in sound output. Todd noted that the new cabinets for the Great Hall are being stained and will then be ready to install. Also, four columbaria have been ordered for the cemetery. They will contain 384 niches.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Cemetery Committee-** Steve Russell.

Minutes of their last two meetings were reviewed. Spring cemetery clean-up is scheduled for Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. An additional clean-up day was set for Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. for working and young parishioners.

**Liturgy Committee** – Tabatha Odens – No Report.

**Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation Committee** - Tabatha Odens and Dawn Houska.

Minutes of their last two meetings were reviewed.

**Stewardship Committee-** Tammy Huss.

Minutes of their last meeting were reviewed. Ministry Moment presentations will be scheduled throughout the year. Tammy noted there will not be a Legacy Dinner this fall.

**Board of Education Committee-** Sonya Skinner.

Minutes of their last meeting were reviewed. Sonya reported the pastoral council liaison member to the Board of Education will now be a voting member on the Board. Therefore, there will now be seven voting members. The group is updating the Board of Education bylaws. The report on Casino Night was that attendance was down a little but they feel the net income will be about the same.

**Parish Life Committee-** Megan Bristow and Mary Jane Reif – No report.

**Evangelization Committee** – Mike Sponsler and Tammy Huss.

Mike said they continue to review the book on the Goals of an Evangelization Committee and are setting direction for their efforts.

**Finance Committee-** Todd Wentworth and Dan Hilback – No report.

**Human Resources Committee-** Todd Wentworth.

Todd said Dan Mickelson has been helping temporarily in the maintenance department by filling in for staff members as needed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Diocese of St. Cloud Chapter 11 Reorganization**

The Corporate Officers of the parish met to discuss the parish's involvement with other diocesan parishes in Chapter 11 negotiations. It has been decided that at this time The Church of St. Mary will not participate in the joint negotiations but will continue to review how best to assist the claimants and the diocesan parishes involved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Pastoral Council Election Discernment Procedure**

Steve Russell reminded pastoral council members to make contacts by Tuesday with the individuals whose names were submitted as potential candidates for the pastoral council and to give the results to Janell Eddy. The discernment process and election will be held Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

The next pastoral council meeting will be held Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The June meeting (with social activities) will be held Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at Father Steve's home.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Carol Gaffaney  
Recording Secretary