

Saint John Fisher Pastoral Council Meeting

June 7, 2017

Present: Monsignor David A. Sork (pastor), Hanan Tanios (chair), Mac Chapman (vice-chair), Beverly Beatty, Marianne Canetti, Rick Creed, Frank Lee, Carl Mossberg, Bill Munday, Jeanne Murphy, Megan Tilles, Gayle Plecha (parish administrator) and Grant Hungerford (staff representative)

Absent: Bob Rapoza, Katelyn Parker (youth representative) and Onyi Onyeador (alternate youth representative)

Guests: Joe Arroyo, Jeanne Leo (Women's Council) and Paul Leo (Seekers)

Msgr. Sork opened the meeting at 7:05 P.M. and welcomed the guests.

The Council prayed the First 15 led by Carl Mossberg.

Pastor-Parish Life (Msgr. Sork)

Discussion of V Encuentra

Monsignor. Sork invited comments from the council regarding their thoughts about the V Encuentra presentation by that organization's chairman, Ernesto Vega, and administrator, Maricruz Saucedo, at the last council meeting, while Gayle Plecha handed out V Encuentra pamphlets. The consensus of the council was that it was not ready to be introduced at Saint John Fisher (SJF). Among the issues discussed is the short time frame the parish has to publicize and prepare for it, since it will occur this summer. Also the objectives were not clearly articulated and therefore not understood by the council. A language problem also exists since it is in Spanish and everything needs to be translated. Monsignor advised that V Encuentro has existed for about 30 years, but is not an annual event. He concluded that based on the input of the council SJF will not take part this year.

Monsignor Eugene A. Gilb's 60th Anniversary Mass and Reception

All of the comments regarding this were positive. Some of the things mentioned were Monsignor's Gilb's excellent homily, the reception, the large number of parishioners who attended and that it was streamed on the Internet. Monsignor Sork mentioned that a former parishioner, who is now in the Philippines, called and said how happy she was to have been able to watch the Mass. Monsignor Sork also shared that Bishop Sylvester Ryan (retired bishop of Monterey, California), a seminary classmate of Monsignor Gilb's, sent a letter to Monsignor Sork telling him how pleased Monsignor Gilb was with the celebration.

Columbarium Expansion Discussion

Gayle Plecha explained that 40 % of the original 456 niches in the columbarium have been sold. Based on its popularity the parish will be doubling the capacity of the columbarium with the month-long construction beginning in late July. Diagrams of how the area will look after the expansion is complete were handed out. An observation was made that the benches in that area will be more private since the new structure will separate the benches from the labyrinth and plaza areas.

Chair / Vice Chair

Approval of May Minutes

Hanan Tanios asked if there were any correction to the May Minutes. Two corrections were suggested and made. Jeanne Murphy moved to approve the corrected minutes. Rick Creed seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Palos Verdes Street Fair

Mac Chapman stated that the emphasis at the SJF booth this year at the Palos Verdes Street Fair will be the parish school. Applications for the school will be given out to visitors and the effectiveness of doing this will be measured by how many are returned completed to the school, and how many telephone calls are generated to the school office. The location of the booth is similar to last year and will be staffed by parish volunteers from 10:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. Several parents of current school students will be there, but an appeal was made to council members to take part also. Once again the ring toss will be used to entice youngsters and their parents to stop at the booth. There will also be literature regarding other activities at the parish, including the June Concert.

The June Concert “American Voices”

Music Director Grant Hungerford, who was the SJF staff representative, advised that the works that will be played at this year’s June Concert are all from American composers. He named them and noted that the final numbers will be patriotic compositions. The Pastoral Council will host the event, so there is a need for volunteers to greet and hand out programs, usher, take up the free will offering and distribute refreshments (lemonade and cookies) in the plaza when the concert concludes. Grant estimated an attendance of between 300 and 350 based on last year’s crowd.

Pastoral Planning Commtee

Hanan Tanios stated that the last parish pastoral plan was approved in July 2013. She explained that the pastoral planning committee proposes a draft of the objectives for the next year that then go to the pastoral council for approval. The pastoral council makes any additions or corrections it deems appropriate and it is returned to the pastoral planning committee where a final draft is composed. That draft is then sent back to the pastoral council for final approval. Monsignor Sork advised that in the current revision process the staff has five proposed objectives. There was a request for volunteers from the pastoral council to join the pastoral planning committee since it is felt new members will provide new insights. Megan Tilles, Carl Mossburg and Beverly Beatty volunteered to join Jeanne Murphy, Hanan and other parishioners on the pastoral planning committee.

Last Meeting of 2016-17 Pastoral Council

It was decided that August 2, 2017, will be the last meeting of this pastoral council. Marianne Canetti advised she will be unable to attend on that date.

Other

Rick Creed pointed out that his 95-year-old father recently visited him. While they were attending Mass the father was unable to go to a station to receive Communion and none of the Eucharistic Ministers noticed him. Due to this he did not receive Communion. It was explained by Eucharistic Ministers on the Pastoral Council that this was unfortunate and should not happen since there are guidelines in place for incidents like this. These procedures were explained and assurances made that an e-mail would be sent to all Eucharistic Ministers pointing out what occurred and for them to be more attentive in the future.

The meeting was completed at 8:04 P.M. with the prayer of Saint John Fisher.

Respectfully submitted,

C. J. Ruona