

**St. John Fisher Pastoral Council Meeting
October 2, 2019**

Present: Msgr. David A. Sork, Chris Ratliff (chair), Joe Arroyo (vice chair), Janos Bakos, Sheila Bloodgood, Dana Hargrave, Carl Mossberg, Bill Smith, Megan Tilles, Kelly Tramontin, Dave Williams, Roya Adli (youth rep.), Chiby Onyeador (youth alt.), Gayle Plecha, and Katie Dante as the staff representative.

Absent: Steve Izuno

Guest(s): Hanan Tanios, Beverly Beatty, Bev Fink, Paul Leo (Seekers), Jeanne Leo (Women's Council)

Msgr. Sork opened the meeting at 7:01 pm and welcomed the guests and staff representative.

The Council prayed the First 15 led by Joe Arroyo.

Pastor-Parish Life (Msgr. Sork)

Feedback

Bishop Barron's Letter to a Suffering Church

- Thoughts on the book: Consensus of the Council is that the book is enjoyable, inspirational, and worth reading.

Fall Kick Off

- Receptivity to new Pastoral Plan: Msgr. Sork said the Fall Kick Off was held the Sunday after Labor Day, and the new Pastoral Plan was announced that same weekend. Megan Tilles and Bill Smith felt that it was very valuable to have Pastoral Council pass out the plans, otherwise people might not take them. Joe Arroyo commented that parishioners appreciated that the objectives are new for 2019 (as they are new every year). Chris Ratliff felt that one out of every three parishioners took a booklet on their own. Msgr. Sork commented that, going forward, the objectives and booklet needs to be completed by the Fall Kick Off weekend and Pastoral Council needs to be willing to mingle after Mass, hand out copies of the booklet, and talk about it.
- Knights of Columbus BBQ: Consensus of the Council was that it was a success beyond expectations.

Together in Mission status of pledges

Gayle Plecha said that SJF has always met or exceeded its goal, but we are behind goal this year.

Charitable Outreach Fund (Obra Buena) giving

Gayle Plecha reported that the Fund and regular collection are below levels collected in prior year. Msgr. Sork said that CCS reported the recent tax laws have affected the giving due to the higher standard deductions.

Catechetical Sunday – September 15

Katie Dante said the turnout was very good and the brunch afterwards was nice. Msgr. Sork commented that this event is an important part of who we are as a parish.

Screenagers movie – September 29

Margaret Johnson showed the movie, which is from the perspective of a doctor who is also a mother. Theme is how addicting smart phones, iPads, and computer games can be for children and teens. Katie Dante said it is very well done and explained how much screen time is affecting the brain development of the young.

Penance Service – September 30

Bill Smith said the set up worked out very well.

Upcoming Events

- **Women’s Council Movie Night, “Unplanned” – October 4**
The Women’s Council annual movie night this year is Unplanned. It is rated R, so minors must attend with their parents. Kelly Tramontin said it should be a part of the Respect Life curriculum. Dana Hargrave had heard from a fellow parishioner who didn’t understand how powerful and serious this movie is.
- **Dawn Unity at SJF – October 29**
Msgr. Sork, one of the panelists, said SJF is hosting the event and the topic is the Book of Exodus. It’s the 19th season and a great opportunity to witness how people of different faith traditions can dialogue.

Capital Campaign Update

Msgr. Sork reported that the consensus at a previous Council meeting was that SJF should complete the master plan and conduct a feasibility study. Feasibility Study was completed in June. The report indicated SJF can raise \$8 million. The report was presented to the Finance Council, which recommended going forward with the campaign. The feasibility study for the proposed preschool indicated dropping it to allow focus on the high school youth. The other change was not to include renovation of Barrett Hall in the capital campaign because there is already money on hand for that purpose. Msgr. Sork has been overwhelmed by the support so far: SJF has raised almost 25% of the goal during this “quiet phase” of the campaign. Msgr. Sork will announce the campaign in March 2020, and it will complete in June 2020.

Chair/Vice-Chair

Approval of September Minutes

Chris Ratliff asked for corrections to September minutes. Hearing none, Carl Mossberg moved to approve the September minutes. Dave Williams seconded. The minutes were approved.

Pastoral Council officer training held 9/21/19 and attended by Chris Ratliff and Joe Arroyo

Chris Ratliff and Joe Arroyo attended the Archdiocese-sponsored all-day training. Joe Arroyo reported that there were presentations by some of the pastors and then breakout sessions. Chris Ratliff said the training was affirming for the quality of the SJF Pastoral Council.

Staff Rep: LifeTeen Update

Katie Dante reported that good things are happening. They have eight very committed parents, and the team attended two trainings over the summer. Megan Tilles offered to attend future team meetings to represent the Council. They have created a job description for a Youth Ministry Specialist, a full-time position. Msgr. Sork conducted the final interviews and said any one of the three would be a great addition to the program.

Goals and Objectives:

The way forward and plan for ad hoc's monthly reporting to PC: Dana Hargrave suggested spending some time at the November meeting having each group give an update on progress on their objectives. Chris Ratliff will put updates on the agenda and will ask a leader from each group to speak about their progress

Next Meeting – November 6

Other

- Gayle Plecha thanked Megan Tilles for again hosting the Pastoral Council potluck gathering at her home in September.
- Chris Ratliff reminded everyone to send future agenda items to him to be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

The meeting was concluded at 9:03 PM with the prayer of St. John Fisher.