

**Draft MINUTES**  
**Faith Formation Commission meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 10, 2015 - 7:00 pm - St Louis Room**

*Present:* Fr Secora, Tom Primmer, Deacon Alan, Ricardo Garcia (Coordinator of Middle School Youth Ministry), Anna Steele,  
Tina Colburn (FFC Chair), Rita Hayes, Patty Willadsen, Kari Ricke, Joel Rogers (Pastoral Council Representative), Stacy Ryan (Catholic School Board liaison), Grant Pahl, Claire Aitchison, Rosie Stanley

*Absent:* Rosemary Wilson,

Meeting called to order: 7:01p.m.

Prayer and reflection led by Anna.

January minutes approved with one correction.

***Anna's report:***

Anna said 95% of her plans for next year are set.

While Life teen and Confirmation ministry are strong and well attended, the small group ministry is struggling. Anna is discerning a new curriculum for the small group ministry. She will be discussing the new curriculum on March 10th at 5:45 in the St. Louis room, before the FFC meeting. Parents and those interested are invited to attend.

***Joel's report:***

The travel policy for minors has changed. Minors must now be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian on international trips.

Joel said he discussed the Called and Gifted workshop with the Pastoral Council. The Council wanted a timeline and cost involved for the workshop. Tom has provided Joel with required information.

Father said the new language to be used in the catholic school contracts are with the lawyers. Father also said that his experience with catholic schools gives him an good perspective on how the school needs to be run.

***Ricardo's report:***

Ricardo is looking to make some changes in the Edge program. Right now Edge meets once a month; this is could change to twice weekly (with Sunday nights) so he sees the kids more often. He still needs to factor in the small group ministry.

***Stacy's report from Catholic School Board:***

Stacy said one staff position will be reduced due to low enrollment.

The Owl's Club, the before and after school childcare program, will cease to function from the academic year of 2015-2016. This is due to the policy changes made by the State governing such programs. The new guidelines make it much more expensive to run this program.

The School board has also approved a 4% increase in tuition for all grades.

The Preschool has increased enrollment this year and there are plans to offer an afternoon class.

The next CSB meeting will be on the March 23rd and this will be a combined meeting for March and April.

***Tom's Report:***

Tom said he is brainstorming ideas for adult small group ministries. He clarified some points on setting up such ministries. Tom said that due to liability issues he cannot personally set up a small group ministry; he can, however, help advertise it and provide support. He can be the touch point for small groups-but cannot be hands-on.

Tom has been nominated to be on the Archdiocese Faith Formation leader team.

Scott Walker is teaching Tom to navigate the website. The website will be updated more frequently and there are plans to redesign the website at a later date.

Tom said he will be gone March 12th through the 16th to attend the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress at LA.

Tom shared the proposed budgets for Faith Formation and Youth Ministry.

Some highlights of the budget discussion:

Tom is requesting some changes in Julie Anne's hours.

The 6th through 12th grade registration fee will be set at \$100 for next year.

All were in consensus to send the proposed budget to the Finance Council.

Joel had a comment- as we put budgets together, we should keep in mind our values, missions and goals and see how that is reflected in our budgets, and also how it aligns with the catechetical plan.

Tina brought up the proposed suggestion from last FFC meeting to cease all but essential council meetings during Lent. Fr. Jim asked to have the suggestion to be added to next month's agenda and start planning for it in Fall 2015. For 2015 Lent season, we will continue to meet as usual and our next meeting will be on March 10th 2015.

The discussion was moved to looking at Goal No. 2 and objectives from the catechetical plan, which reads: "Faith Formation opportunities foster a welcoming and hospitable parish community with an "open door" spirit."

Tina said we do have a welcoming and comfortable atmosphere here at St. Cecilia's. Joel suggested encouraging people in the pews to talk to each other.

Father said the bereavement ministry does an excellent job. People who come to funerals receive a positive Catholic experience; it is a great faith formation opportunity for us. The challenge now is to replicate this excellence in other ministries.

After this discussion the FFC went into closed executive session from 8:35 to 8:43pm.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 pm

Our next meeting will be March 10th. Opening prayer - Rita, closing prayer - Tina.

Respectfully submitted by Rosie Stanley