

**Minutes – St. Cecilia Pastoral Council**  
**Tuesday, September 25, 2018, 7:00pm, St. Louis Room**

**Present:** Father Jim Secora, Mark Moore (Finance Council), Reno Berg, Sarah Swanson, Mirna Canuso, Mark Sorrentino, Lois Lemkuhl, Matt Thatcher, Kate Hartzler (Parish Life Rep), Mike Dolan (Catholic School Board Chair), Sarah Mansell (Faith Formation Chair), Mary Staniger (Stewardship Rep), Nancy Jenson (Liturgy Rep)

**Staff:** Jarrett Wendt (Pastoral Associate), Bob Hauser (Music & Liturgy Director), Bill Klein (Business Manager)

**Guests:** None Present

**Notes By:** Matt Thatcher

1. **Call to Order:** Reno called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. **Opening Prayer:** Kate Hartzler led the group in prayer.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** August 2018 Pastoral Council minutes were approved.
4. **Visioning Update:** Father Secora gave an update on the Pastoral Council Strategic Planning Initiatives. Father cited challenges to creating a meaningful survey while giving initiative #1 a “red” rating. All others are in progress and given a “yellow” rating. Reno and the council discussed what could be done to improve the ratings, especially initiative #1: Evaluate current programs against needs as identified by a parishioner survey & parishioner forum. Council members were asked to review the survey given circa June 2016 (compiled by Rick Brimeyer) which is published on the parish website under “Parish... Reports”. This topic will be discussed further as an agenda item for the October meeting of the Pastoral Council.  
<https://www.stceciliaparish.org/parish/reports/>  
<http://www.stceciliaparish.org/wp-content/uploads/Parish-Survey-Results-June-2016.pdf>
5. **New Business:**
  - A. **Report from Ministry Fair:** Mary Staniger presented a summary of the Ministry Fair, stating that the fair went well and was very well attended. A survey has been sent out to Ministry contacts to obtain additional feedback and suggestions. Many visuals, handouts and experiences were shared. A suggestion was brought forth and discussed to set up an email account for each ministry/committee as a means to simplify the handoff to new leaders/members and to limit the amount of communication that clutters personal email accounts. Jarrett will ask Randy Dalhoff about setting up accounts that are uniformly named either under the parish domain (@stceciliaparish.org) or as @gmail.com accounts. This topic is to be discussed further as an agenda item for the October meeting of the Pastoral Council.
6. **Old Business:**
  - A. **Date that congregation will be informed of Mass time changes (in event of no available substitute priest):** Father stated that mass time changes will be announced this coming weekend Sept 29-30. Changes are effective immediately – but, as a reminder, these changes are only in effect when a substitute cannot be obtained. Signage (possibly of the form “This weeks mass times...”) will be prepared as a means to communicate when the changes are in effect.
  - B. **Columbarium Update:** There was significant interest in the Columbarium project noted at the Ministry Fair. Father and the committee are seeking proposals and presentations from several companies before making any decisions on how to move forward.
7. **Committee and Board Reports (provided in packet):**
  - 1) **Business Office-** Bill Klein reported that all Monthly Reports are up to date and the Annual Report has been completed.
  - 2) **Catholic School Board-** Mike Dolan reported enrollment is down by 14 students from the previous school year. Reasons cited most often include finances, relocation and choosing homeschooling. Father noted that enrollment across the archdiocese is down by 250 students. There was discussion about tuition costs and tuition assistance.
  - 3) **Faith Formation-** Sarah Mansell reported that Evangelical Catholic was a focus of this month’s meeting.
  - 4) **Finance-** Mark Moore stated that Monthly and Year End reports were shared in packets distributed for this September meeting. A bulletin insert will be coming.

- 5) **Liturgy-** Nancy Jenson and Bob Hauser shared that the September meeting will be tomorrow (Wed, 26-Sep). Liturgical Formation Night was held last week and the committee is actively recruiting and training more people.
- 6) **Parish Life-** Kate Hartzler reported that the date for the Fall Leadership Social will be changing to avoid conflicting with the REBOOT event on Oct 18th.
- 7) **Social Justice-** Sarah Swanson and Jarrett shared a copy of brochures for Good Samaritan Black Bag Collection which will be placed in pews for the October Black Bag weekend. Sarah shared information about two upcoming events: 1) Paint Your Prayer Retreat to be held Oct 27<sup>th</sup> 12:30-3:30 in the Social Hall and 2) AMOS Action With Candidates meeting to be held Oct 18<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm at First Christian Church, 611 Clark Ave in Ames – the Social Justice committee is seeking AMOS representatives.
- 8) **Stewardship-** Mary Staniger stated that the committee is planning to do an appreciation event in the spring.
8. **Other Business/Additional Comments:** 1) Reno gave a reminder of REBOOT Speaker Chris Stefanick on Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup> at Ames City Auditorium 7-9:30pm and Father Secora encouraged attendance; Sarah Swanson stated that the website is very good; Jarrett suggested that the event be discussed at the next meeting of the Pastoral Council (which will occur the week following the event). 2) Reno shared a reminder that Eucharistic Adoration is looking for more volunteers.
9. **Once Around:** Not included in this meeting.
10. **Closing Prayer:** Kate Hartzler led the group in a closing prayer.
11. **Adjourn:** Reno adjourned the meeting at 8:14pm.

**Next Pastoral Council Meeting:** Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 7pm

**Prayer Leader:** Sarah Swanson

**Visioning Update:** Social Justice, by Sarah Swanson