

**Minutes – St. Cecilia Pastoral Council**  
**Tuesday, November 27, 2018, 7:00pm, Social Hall North**

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

**Staff:** Jarrett Wendt (Pastoral Associate), Bill Klein (Business Manager), Deacon Charles Bernhard

**Guests:** None Present

**Notes By:** Matt Thatcher

1. **Call to Order:** Reno called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. **Opening Prayer:** Sarah Mansell led the group in prayer.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** October 2018 Pastoral Council minutes were approved as submitted (no changes).
4. **Visioning Update:** No visioning update. Will resume following schedule in March 2019.  
Follow-up from prior meetings: The parish survey given circa June 2016 was briefly discussed and as agreed by Reno and council it will not be reviewed further at this time.
5. **New Business:**
  - A. **Strategic Planning on Jan 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019:** All members of the Pastoral Council are asked to participate. Meeting is scheduled for 8am-noon in the St Louis Room. Rick Brimeyer will facilitate. Coffee will be provided by the parish. Snacks will be provided by Lois and any others who are willing and able. Nancy will provide paper products.
  - B. **Resignation from Pastoral Council:** Father, Reno and the council accepted the resignation by Mark Sorrentino who is pursuing training (at times which conflict with PC meetings) to become a Stephen Minister. At the recommendation of Father Secora, the Pastoral Council agreed to leave Mark's position open for the next five meetings at which time that term was to have been completed.
6. **Old Business:**
  - A. **Columbarium report:** Columbarium companies from MN and AZ have already presented to the committee. Another presentation is planned by a company from NY specializing in creating a columbarium inside a building. The council briefly discussed some of the advantages and disadvantages of having a columbarium indoors versus outdoors.
7. **Committee and Board Reports (provided in packet):**
  - 1) **Business Office-** Bill Klein reported that there has been a decline in the value of parish investments since early in the year. The TAXA assessment from the Archdiocese was based on a value of investments that is higher than the current value. Health insurance premiums are increasing by 6%. A claim of loss has been filed for the roof on the rectory. Beginning Jan 1, PerMar will no longer come around to lock up buildings at night. The council discussed building security and the need to find other resources to lock the building and/or to change the hours that the building remains open. For the interim period, Jeremy will likely adjust his hours to cover locking the building. Facility Security will be added to the January agenda.
  - 2) **Catholic School Board-** Mike Dolan reported that the Catholic School Board is discussing what to do with the tuition matrix. There is broad interest in simplifying, possibly to a flat rate tuition. There was discussion of the many factors involved in school budgeting, and it was suggested that it would be good to publish the school's actual cost per child.
  - 3) **Faith Formation-** Sarah Mansell stated that all catechist positions are now covered for elementary and middle school faith formation. For next year there is a plan to begin recruiting catechists as early as January and to possibly reduce the number of class times that are offered.
  - 4) **Finance-** Mark Moore reported that currently the parish spend is in the red, but only by about \$2,000. The Building Fund has done fairly well after making some conservative investment changes in anticipation of spending. Facilities funds are planned for improvements to the playground, sidewalk, drainage, roof and gutters.
  - 5) **Liturgy-** Nancy Jenson and Father Secora shared that the next meeting will be on Nov 28<sup>th</sup> and will focus on Advent and Christmas liturgies.

- 6) **Parish Life-** The Parish Life committee held the Fall Leadership Social on Nov 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 7) **Social Justice-** The October meeting for Social Justice was Oct 15<sup>th</sup>. No additional update was given in the PC meeting.
- 8) **Stewardship-** Mary Staniger shared that an annual Stewardship planning meeting was held to brainstorm and work on Stewardship goals and initiatives in preparation for the strategic planning meeting in January.
8. **Other Business/Additional Comments:** 1) Father Secora pointed out that there are only 3 active priests remaining in Story County. Pray for vocations to the priesthood.
9. **Once Around:** None this month.
10. **Closing Prayer:** Sarah Mansell led the group in a closing prayer.
11. **Adjourn:** Reno adjourned the meeting at 8:03pm.

**Next Pastoral Council Meeting:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 7pm

**Prayer Leader:** Reno Berg

**Visioning Update:** No update in Nov, Next update by Stewardship in Mar 2019