

Minutes
St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council
March 10, 2008

Attendees:

Fr. Chuck Latus	John McDermott	Lisa Swovick
Sr. Katherine Ann	John O'Connor	Barb Tatanus
Tom Bayer	Bernadette Rall	Ann Tiberio
Paul Dangler	Jim Sauer	Dick Wagner
Dottie DeLano	Betsy Swovick	Lauren Wynne

Excused:

Drew Desmarais	Fr. Hoan Dinh	Rich Engel
Chris Mauro	Marti Mauro	

Opening Prayer: Jim Sauer

Reading of Vision Statement from State of Parish Report: *To nurture and grow the spiritual vitality of each and every Saint Rita parishioner and support them along their life journey as Disciples of Christ while fostering a vibrant, engaging, welcoming faith community.*

Confirmation of February minutes: Minutes were approved with no changes

Finance Committee Update:

- Paul Dangler will be Chair of Finance Committee; he will finish his term for this year on Parish Council, but then not renew for next year

Pastor Report: Fr. Chuck

- Expressed his gratitude for Webster Penfield Catholic Connection for the Lenten Retreat – “Change: Challenge and Grace.” Great turnout all three days for both the day and evening programs. People willingly shared and the interaction was great. Dr. Roslyn Karaban, the presenter, teaches ways to handle grief and loss. Many people shared stories after program and took her business card. Third day – conversation about change in church – realism in group that Webster churches will eventually face changes. Goal in 5-year plan – WPCC learn to work together so better prepared to face changes together later. Thanks to everyone that helped from all four parishes – pastoral associates, parishioners and those who provided goodies
- Fr. Chuck encouraged everyone to attend services this coming weekend

Fiesta Update: Ed Ritzel, Tom Cali

- Fiesta is June 6th & 7th
- Plan is to have everyone spend time under one tent; ordering large tent this year to fit most activities in one place – 80' x 190' tent (triple size of last year); good deal at Taylor Rental; spikes to go in pavement for tent, but plugs will seal holes after; if raining, tent will be at capacity
- smaller stage, food sales (cooking just outside tent), raffle and game booths under tent; tables and chairs in middle of tent (double space from last year); Country Store (owner of Hank's) selling pizza – eager to help community; may block parking for mass, but have ideas on ways to alleviate issue; tent to be delivered Tuesday of Fiesta week
- Raffle- entry form to be in bulletin on Easter Sunday; raffle needs to be changed every year to encourage new buyers; Grand prize \$10,000 – 2nd prize - \$1,000 – 3rd prize – 5 \$100 Wegman's gift cards; 54% of people buy own tickets they receive in mail – tickets will be \$10/each or 10 for \$75; parishioner selling most tickets wins reserved pew and parking space on either Christmas Eve or Easter Sunday
- Idea is to have people pass through raffles, games and money items before getting to free concert; Skycoasters will push raffle tickets and make announcements; people will walk around selling raffle tickets; Tithing to go to James P. Wilmot Cancer Center – so many parishioners with cancer
- Could fit 280 chairs under tent if choose to have mass with St. Rita's or WPCC; trying to get trolley to ferry people to tent; if hot, will take sides off and run sprinklers speaker system to be carefully controlled so people in tent can hear; inflatables, dunk tank and plant sale outside tent; book sale, bake sale, fish fry still in Parish Center
- Family First Credit Union will have ATM machine; also trying to get FFCU to have money machine where people grab money from air
- Tom Cali and Ed's son Noah chosen to participate in 5th Grade Trivia Game through Fox 31 – can vote online March 18-23

PPC Constitution Update: John O'Connor

- Discussion based on article by CNS Documentary Service including model Constitution for Pastoral Councils; excerpt from article with suggested Bylaws for Pastoral Councils and packet prepared for Status Update on St Rita's PPC Constitution
- Must take current Constitution and bring up to date with standard norms, including adhering to guidelines (ideals, purposes, etc) and addressing logistical matters referring to St. Rita's
- Diocese of Charlotte guideline is right on target with what we are aiming for; status update outlines what should be brought into line with the Diocesan model – some things match up, while some are irrelevant
- Need to discuss purpose of Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Committee – PPC is linked to Finance Committee, but PPC not about money; according to Canon Law, only two groups mandated are PPC and Finance Committee

- Status Update packet includes examples of Model articles, current policy in St. Rita Constitution and items to be discussed; by reviewing each section this way, should be easier to review what needs to be changed; one page of Next Step ideas for each couple of paragraphs; Council would use Charlotte Diocese as a model; work up a document by section and then final document for all to read
- Process we use to choose members is common – coming to consensus; veto not relevant; no decisions without Pastor present; 2 terms used in Charlotte model – Carians (sp. ??) – or Monsignors – not used in this Diocese - honorary title only; Vicarits (sp.??) – our diocese has Regional Coordinators, but have no distinct power
- Timeline for St. Rita's Constitution – review at April and May meetings – hope to approve at June meeting

Pillar – Evangelization Discussion:

- Recommended we discuss at next meeting; many parishioners are registered but we never see them – some people here only every 6 weeks; reflect on ideas to invite people to higher level of participation; if specific recommendations, will approach staff to see if can carry out idea
- Charlotte model of Parish Pastoral Plan – Fr. Chuck see Pillars as our Council Plan; see 4th page of CNS document under #19 – try to substitute pillars in place of parish pastoral plan

Miscellaneous:

- Pre Cana went well this past weekend – 14 couples enjoyed day – positive feedback
- Couple from South Carolina visiting Rochester last weekend attended mass at St. Rita's – went out of their way to tell Fr. Chuck how impressed they were with the welcoming feeling of our parish
- Should all pray for the Governor and government members
- St. Rita's Society – hosting Irish dancers and food – 7 pm tomorrow