

Epiphany Parish Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: January 9, 2007, 8:30 p.m.
Location: Three Kings Meeting Room
Attendees: Robert Breitbach, Denny Dorsey, Julie Fisher, Eric Gunderson, Mike Lentz, Greg Mueller, Greg Phillippi, Robert Sanislo, Clyde Schultz, Tim Sullivan, Terri Willaert, Father Dennis Zehren
Minute Taker: Mary Beth Ineson

- I. Minutes from December Meeting
Minutes approved with no changes.

- II. Open Mike
 - No discussion for this meeting
 - Follow-up from last meeting regarding Stephanie Gazich's suggestion to lead the parish in praying the rosary. Fr. Zehren spoke with Stephanie. She suggested praying between 2 of the Masses on Sunday. Fr. Zehren is often called for other ministries on Sunday, but is still looking for suggestions for times for the Rosary. At this meeting, she suggested perhaps a novena. She thought perhaps other priests could cover for Father Zehren during the novena.

- III. Commission Reports
 - Liturgy – Denny Dorsey
Clyde Schultz and Fr. Zehren attended the commission meeting this evening. The commission discussed when they could serve Hospitality at Sunday Mass. Jean Ashton reserved dates in June for the Liturgy Commission. They are also continuing to work on their booklets. The commission is meeting with the heads of the ministries next month to work on the booklets. Commission is also interested in a volunteer serving at the information booth in the foyer. Jean is contacting environment for information.

 - Finance – Greg Mueller
Greg passed out an updated contributions tally. The report shows continued strong contributions through the end of December and early January. He will be covering additional numbers later in the meeting. The graph on page 2 showed the trend line exceeded the budget line. The established target for contributions is \$110,000 per week, which was shared in the letter that went out.

The other topic of discussion was the Reiser Foundation and how to manage the disbursement for 2007. A committee has been formed to review the bylaws and determine if they need to be amended. There is a principal that cannot be touched by law, and the disbursements are regulated as well in four areas. The endowment committee determines this disbursement

 - Stewardship – Terri Willaert
There are three big weekends coming up for stewardship. These weekends are January 27th and 28th when the lay witnesses will speak, February 3rd and 4th when Father Zehren will speak, and February 10th and 11th when the covenants will be returned.

 - Education – Robert Breitbach
Commission is accumulating a resource book of all of the groups that report to the education commission. There is a strong emphasis with the youth and education regarding stewardship – envelopes and availability. Virtus training was discussed. Any

volunteering at the Church requires Virtus training. Virtus is an awareness of child abuse and creating a safe environment. Everyone can go to Virtus.org for more information. Jane Carroll gave a program update regarding the school. She discussed how impressed she is with the culture in our school. Katie Gerhardt acknowledged this culture as well.

- Activities – Greg Phillippi
Julie Fisher joined the group this evening. The commission discussed if communication should be a part of the activities commission, since they serve as a liaison between the council and the activities. Several council members agreed. The resource manual is being downgraded to a sheet since the contacts are minimal. Nancy Bohlman said she would look into the diner being open for other events at the fairgrounds. Clyde talked with Patty. She said it has been tried in the past, and Greg will ask Patty if she wants to work on it or have Nancy. The commission also discussed the suggestion of a pot luck social for the parish.
- Operations – Robert Sanislo
Group discussed the letter from Tom Nathe regarding the diner being open for the back to the 50's at the fairgrounds. Activities Commission and Operations Commission should meet and discuss the feasibility. The stewardship commission would be involved if the plan was determined to move forward. "Adopt a Classroom" was also discussed, which was in the letter as well. Next month, John Awalt wants to go over the budget to see where dollars could be cut. Routine maintenance needs to be reviewed. Robert is working on offering CPR Defibrillator training from CPR Professionals for the entire parish. There is a defibrillator by the ushers' room and one between gym and cafeteria. Staff, ushers, maintenance, and health professionals will be on a separate program organized by John Awalt. This program is required for 20 people on staff. The two classes are different due to the target audiences. The class offered to the parish will be about 2 hours, while the course for the staff will be about 4 hours.

IV. Discernment Preliminary

Mike discussed the timeline for discernment. The goal is to get the bulk of the discernment before SpringFest and the end of the school year. At the next meeting on February 13, the timeline should be approved, and the council will look at the commission structure. Terri Willaert has offered to facilitate the next discernment meeting.

V. Epiphany Executive Committee

The committee met last Tuesday to further discuss the various aspects of our current financial situation. Robert Breitbach, Greg Mueller, Fr. Zehren, Mike Lentz, Jane Carroll, Katie Gebhard, Sr. Marion Welter, Clyde Schultz, and Joe Gabler attended. The committee reviewed options, looking at the current trend of giving and how it will impact the near and distant future. They also discussed the school and the tuition options as well as other options and policies that have been adopted in the past years and how it reflects the culture of our parish. The committee tabled some of the decisions until further reflection and prayer, but decisions need to be made soon regarding the financials. They are reviewing any and all options from maintaining total stewardship as it is today, to bringing back tuition, and everything in between. Everyone is very committed to stewardship and is working to maintain total stewardship and to maintain healthy financials. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is January 30. The outcome of the discussions will be a recommendation to Fr. Zehren, who will make the final decision. Any questions can be directed to the website www.epiphanymn.org.

VI. Conclusion

The meeting was concluded at 9:30 p.m. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 13, at 8:30 p.m.