

Epiphany Parish Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: June 12, 2007, 8:30 p.m.
Location: Three Kings Meeting Room
Attendees: Robert Breitbach, Denny Dorsey, Julie Fischer, Joe Gabler, Eric Gunderson, Mike Lentz, Greg Mueller, Greg Phillippi, Robert Sanislo, Clyde Schultz, Steve Sorsen, Tim Sullivan, Father Dennis Zehren
Minute Taker: Mary Beth Ineson

- I. Minutes from May Meeting
May minutes approved with no changes. The minutes on the website are only through February. Clyde will investigate.

- II. Open Mike
Chuck Dillon and Tim Andrajack are here from the Diner Committee.
Chuck Dillon – 11542 Jonquil St NW, Coon Rapids -- Chuck is asking for everyone's help. He and his wife, along with Tim Andrajack have been asked to run the State Fair Diner. He is hoping to improve the food quality and make it fun for volunteers. He is asking each of the commissions to talk to their commission members and ask for ideas or suggestions.
Tim Andrajack – 5832 3rd St, Fridley – The state fair is August 23 to September 3. He suggests going to some of the groups and inviting them to work a day together, so we can say they have been served by the ushers or Women of Epiphany, for example. The state fair diner needs 40 volunteers in the morning and 40 at night. Why would you participate – serving Christ, serving each other, serving people you don't even know. This is what stewardship is all about. It is hard work, long days, and either hot or cold many days. What comes of this – we learn to pray together, work together. This is the Church's diner. The Church should participate. It is a ministry, not a business. It is the oldest ministry we have – 41 years. Although the diner does not make a lot of money, it makes a lot of friends. He wants everyone to understand what the diner is all about. It's about volunteering, and it is about stewardship.

Mary Beth Schultz – 1343 107th Lane NW, Coon Rapids – She has been part of the diner. When we think of groups, we always think of the youth. However, we need adults. Youth cannot serve in some areas of the diner.

Todd Krafty – 10448 Yukon St, Coon Rapids – He is wondering if there is a Faith Formation program for the junior high. His concern is throughout the year, the one hour of religion each day did not really seem to have any continuity. Is there a structure for junior high religious education within the school? 8th grade did not seem to have much structure. Robert Breitbach will provide the curriculum for the junior high within the school.

- III. Commission Reports
 - Pastoral Care and Outreach – Steve Sorsen is the new chair. The commission is all new members. Kathleen Howland will be the staff liaison. The rest of the commission consists of Michele Warren, Mary Rhea, Dina Burke, Connie Kassing, Pat McConnell, Bernie House, Karen McKay, and Mary Riha. The vice-chair will be Bernie House.
 - Community Life – Greg Phillippi
One person discerned on (Todd Krafty), which will create a problem since everyone else will be discerning off next year. Todd will be the new chair. There will be a total of four members on the commission.

- Julie Fischer – Welcome the 3rd Member at Large and the newest member of the Parish Council – Dave Kassing.
- Education – Robert Breitbach
Mary Zulinski, Cindi Novak, Bruce Roles will be new members of the education commission.
- Operations – Robert Sanislo
The commission had 5 vacancies, but only 2 were filled. The new members are Mike Kraft and DuWayne Virnig.
- Finance – Greg Mueller
The commission had a vibrant discernment session. They were blessed with 4 new members discerning onto the commission. Greg will be chair for next year's commission. The commission asked Bob Muffelman to continue as Co-Chair. Doug Fischer will be secretary. Joel Jacobs, Jan Gilbertson, Doug Fischer, Alan Savage are the new members.
- Stewardship – Joe Gabler
We thanked Atu Akaa, Trudi Weiss, Bill and Mary Jo Bonin for their contribution, since they will not be returning next year. We had no one discern onto the commission this year. We discussed how we can promote the discernment process. Next year we have three people discerning off so we will be in the same state as Community Life.
- Liturgy – Denny Dorsey
The commission had a short meeting prior to the discernment. They discussed having a Latin Mass next year. The remainder of the meeting was the discernment on the commission of their new member, Debbie Barichello. The commission had three openings, so they are 2 short. They did not determine Chair and Vice-Chair for next year as yet.
- Tim Sullivan – Since this is the last meeting of the year, he wanted to thank Clyde for outstanding leadership this year. Thank you to everyone for their contribution on the Parish Council. Father had to make some difficult decisions this year, and he wanted to thank everyone for their leadership. Do not be discouraged if you are short on your commissions.

IV. Commission Minutes on the Web

Minutes are currently sent to Libby. The Council meetings minutes are on the web. Should the commission minutes be on the website? To facilitate the communication in the Parish, the commission minutes should also be on the website. The group suggested the council advertise in the bulletin that the minutes are on the web and that we meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month with an open mike. All are welcome.

Only the Stewardship commission has information on the website, and it was recommended the rest of the commissions provide information as well. This information could be a recruitment tool for the discernment process. Todd suggested a standardized template. Community Life discussed this issue tonight and is working on this goal.

The Council should look at the website for communication regarding the commissions, but other forms of communication as well. The ministry fair, hospitality on Sunday, e-mail (for those who have provided their e-mail), and the newsletter are all modes of communication that should be utilized for the Parish.

Upcoming events are the Ministry Fair, which is November 10th. Also, the Community Life commission is considering a couple of socials a year.

- V. Springfest – Went very well. We have a PR venture between now and next Springfest based on the rumors. Friday was the busiest Friday night ever, but we had to close it

down an hour early due to some issues that had arisen. Saturday went well, but it was very cool in the evening so the number was down that evening. Raffle tickets and Silent Auction also seemed to be down this year. However, the community building was great and everyone had fun.

VI. Resurfacing

The road in front of the Parish Offices will be closed the last week of June due to resurfacing.

VII. Staffing

The goal for next year is to have 3 classes for each grade level. Kindergarten is being reduced by one teacher. We have 653 students registered for next year, which is down from the 728 from last year.

Parish has lost Rich Hamsa from Elementary Faith Formation. We also lost Patty who is our hospitality director due to reductions and Sr. Clarion who was working about 15 hours a week. Martha Matern had filled in for one year for Senior high, this position has been filled.

Kindergarten new enrollments were down, which is true for the entire school district. The reduction was not all due to the tuition decision. The next issue of the newsletter will detail all of these changes.

The question was raised whether we are better off financially when enrollment is up. Mike stated he felt that an increased enrollment would benefit the school and the parish.

The school has hired Kevin Schultz as a junior high math teacher. The Parish's unwritten policy is that if you or a member of your family is a paid member of the parish, then you should not be in a position of leadership which oversees that area. Therefore, Clyde Schultz has resigned as Chair of the Parish Council effective the end of this month.

VIII. Adjournment/Closing Prayer

The meeting was concluded at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 11th, at 8:30 p.m.