

 <p>PAX CHRISTI Catholic Community</p>	<p>Meeting Minutes</p> <p>Pax Christi Monthly Council Meeting</p>	<p>COMMUNITY COUNCIL</p>
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Meeting Date:	12-15-2020
Minutes Prepared By:	Andrea Ward

<b>Attendees:</b>	Dale Nelson – Chair	Cecelia Cervantes – left at 6:40pm
	Fr. Mike Byron	Nicholle Check – left at 6:30pm
	Jane Schmitz	Mark Chronister
	Bruce Koehn Carolyn Zucker	Andy Leet Pat Nault – left at 6:35pm
	Patricia Hughes Baumer Mary Frances Messer	Dave Putrich – left at 6:35pm Mike Schneider Cindy Schuh

<b>Absent:</b>	Jacob Plourde	
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**Opening Prayer:** *In Thanksgiving for Divine Revelation* – led by Dale Nelson

**Call to Order:** at 5:32pm, by Dale Nelson

**Approve Last Month Minutes:** Moved to accept by Mike Schneider, seconded by Mary Frances Messer

**Approved Revisions:** None

## Topics of Discussion

### 1. **Communication Arts Director Candidate Search Update:** Update given by Nicholle Check.

The hiring team met with candidates this afternoon, and there are good candidates with a lot of different gifts. Carolyn, Nicholle, Fr. Mike, and Carol Bishop all agreed on a “lead” candidate. Fr. Mike will be calling her tomorrow and we’re hopeful that more information will be able to be released soon.

**Because of this change, please remember that there will be no January Magazine.**

### 2. **Parish Director Update:** Update given by Fr. Mike Byron.

Carol Bishop has been invited to step into the role of Parish Director and will be starting on December 31. Mike has worked with Carol in the past and Carol is bringing a lot of great history. Jane has been working on her end to make this a seamless transition.

### 3. **Deanery 15 Hispanic Ministry:** Discussion led by Fr. Mike Byron.

Assumption Parish in Richfield was designated as Deanery 15’s parish that will purposefully serve the Hispanic community in the area (Deanery 15 encompasses Richfield, Bloomington, and Eden Prairie parishes). In 2011, the other parishes in the deanery were asked to support Assumption financially, as the Archdiocese no longer has any specific mechanism to do so. There was not much of a response at the time, but in 2016 we committed 1% of the donations we receive outside of our Justice Grants. We granted to specific programs and tried to build a relationship between the parishes, though this ultimately didn’t work the way that was hoped for. We have continued this donation to now, though we are one of the few parishes that have continued this gifting, which is largely due to turnover amongst pastors.

At this point, the programs that we were originally granting to are not running, and because of the way that the gifting was organized, we don’t have an account of where this gift is being spent. This has been exacerbated by the consolidation of St. Richard’s and Assumption parishes.

At the last deanery meeting amongst pastors, Fr. Jim Liekus, current pastor at Assumption, did not make a specific plea for funding, rather committing the parish to more transparency and accountability with any financial support given, and building relationships with those organizations.

We recognize the importance of the actions that Assumption has taken on, especially as the ministries that exist there do not currently exist at Pax Christi.

Should this continue on this way, or is there a way in which Pax Christi can use that money gifted to Assumption to better support the Hispanic community here as the population in Eden Prairie shifts? There are likely several groups that are not specifically supported at this time. More research will be needed to determine what those groups are and how to best support them.

Because of this change in leadership at Assumption, would it be more beneficial to move this giving under the Justice Grants Board? They have a clear framework for giving and relationship-

building. We want to make sure that there is more accountability while not making the process onerous for Assumption.

Fr. Mike will continue to be updated on the deanery's response to this change. We will revisit the topic during the February or March meetings when Carol is here to add her thoughts on how to proceed. The Grant's Board will be notified of the potential change.

**4. Climate Justice Congregation Discussion Lay Leadership Grants:** Led by Dave Putrich.

A different type of Lay Leadership Grant was requested by Peg Musegades as a part of the Environmental Justice Action Team to fund the process of Pax Christi joining Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light. While the dollar amount was small, the implications were large enough that the Lay Leadership Council felt it should be brought to the Community Council, especially as Pax Christi is not currently in any other group like this, though we did partner with MNIPL during the Solar Garden Project.

There are many great aspects to the proposal, though there is a concern about becoming a member of an organization that we would have no control over messaging of the work that they undertake.

Because of the open time-frame, Dave will get back in touch with Peg to see if membership with the organization is necessary to move forward with some of the different projects highlighted in her proposal. He will report back during the January meeting once he has had that conversation.

**5. Christmas Mass Usher Appeal:** Jane made the appeal.

We need ushers to make sure that people can navigate the space safely and also prepare in case people who have not registered for Mass wish to attend. At least three more people are needed for the 10:00am Christmas Day Mass. Please contact Joan Howe-Pullis if you can help by Friday. Virtual training will be provided in advance.

Concern about making sure that the messaging is clear was raised. We will have signs at the entrances to alert people that they will not be seated without a reservation, also someone will be stationed by the door to try to have the conversations earlier instead of inside. It was suggested to have specific talking points for ushers in case of someone being upset.

**6. Arts, Campus, and Gardens Engraving Machine:** Discussion led by Pat Nault.

Signage at Pax Christi needs to be updated. There are 198 signs here at Pax, mostly inside the building.

The ACG Council is suggesting purchasing an engraving machine and doing the work onsite. Some staff would be trained on how to use the machine, though it would largely be run by volunteers.

The machine costs around \$6,000 (it is currently on special). This cost would come out of capital funds, not the yearly budget. The cost of materials for the signs would then be around \$10 per sign. If the work is done externally, the cost for the signs would be \$60-180 per sign, leading to a total of around \$200,000.

**Cecelia Cervantes moved to approve, Andy Leet seconded – the purchase of the engraving machine met unanimous approval.**

7. **Jane Schmitz Service/Departure:** Group discussion facilitated by Dale Nelson.
8. **Discussion about the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations:** Discussion tabled until January meeting.  
**Note:** The subcommittee will be meeting in early January. Mike Schneider is still looking for more participants, so please forward any names and contacts on to him of interested parties.

**Adjournment:** No official movement to adjourn, time 6:45pm.

**Next Meeting:** **January 19, 2020**

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Ward.