

**Pax Christi Catholic Community
Community Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 21, 2012
Minutes**

Attendees: Eric Anderson, Tony Anderson, Julie Borchart, Diana Gast, Tom Keane, Vicki Klima, Bruce Koehn, Mike Lindseth, Doug Mertz, Mary Frances Messer, Carrie Chevalier Mosher, Fr. Bill Murtaugh, Judy Ryan, Shari Steffen, Julie Warrick

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on May 15th, 2012 were approved.

Introductions, All members of the council gave brief introductions of themselves.

Discernment of the new Chair, After discussion Eric Anderson was chosen as the new Community Council Chair. Mike Lindseth volunteered to serve as temporary chairperson in times when Eric might be called away on business.

Vicki suggested that the job of taking minutes at each meeting be shared. Bruce further suggested that the job of minute-taking be rotated among the at-large members and trustees only since ministry council chairs have other obligations within their own councils. That suggestion was affirmed by the Community Council.

Orientation to Community Council

Vicki pointed out that there is a section on the role of the Community Council in the Council Handbooks and reviewed the following points:

1. The Council is advisory to the pastor who makes all final decisions.
2. Council members represent the parish as a whole on the Community Council. The chairs of various ministry councils also represent their ministry areas.
3. As much as possible, decisions are reached by consensus in Community Council. In the absence of consensus there should be discussion until everyone is heard and everyone can live with the solution. When necessary the majority might rule in decision making.
4. Agenda items should be forwarded to Eric as the chair as soon as possible so that he and Vicki can collaborate on an agenda in a timely fashion.

Other members added the following orientation points:

5. Community Council members who are also part of ministry councils will be expected to communicate Community Council decisions and discussion back to their ministry councils.

6. Elements of the most recent strategic plan are still in force. Each council and the Community Council are expected to be working on strategic initiatives in connection with the overall strategic plan, with the outcomes expressed in measurable progress.

7. A role of the Community Council is to facilitate collaboration of strategic initiatives between and among the ministry councils and in the parish as a whole.

New Staff: 2FT positions are now 1 1/2 FT positions

Vicki announced that Fr. Mike Kueber is replacing Fr. Murtaugh as Associate Pastor. Peter Bierer has been hired as a Youth Minister and Beth Rademacher has been hired as a part time Justice Coordinator. The latter two positions add up to 1 1/2 FT positions which can be compared to the retirement of Sue Kelley and resignation of Allison Boivert which totaled 2 FT positions. The other staff change, Vicki Klima moving from her previous position to that of Parish Director, resulted in no gain or loss of positions.

Year of Faith:

Vicki announced a parish retreat for leadership, and also for all parish members will be held on March 2, 2013 from 8:30 until noon. The theme will be discipleship. Community Council members indicated a wish for a get-acquainted social gathering for the Community Council members. Vicki, Carrie and Mike will work on that effort. There was also a suggestion that there should be an opportunity for all leadership to meet together for discussion -- either in lieu of the usual Tuesday night format or at some other time. There will be further discussion of these possibilities at the September Community Council meeting.

Strategic Plan Update:

Vicki and Carrie reviewed progress on a plan okayed by the Community Council last spring in which the Gallup organization has been employed to help us work on engagement of parishioners, the overall strategic plan adopted by leadership in the spring of 2011. The plan is based on the book "Growing and Engaged Church" and includes a survey as well as meetings with all parishioners invited as well as smaller groups. Hopefully Dr. Winsman, one of the authors of the book, will be at Pax to meet with us. Dates for these events should be set by the September Council meeting. Several council members spoke of encountering this program in other church settings and in a business setting and gave it high praise. They said followup is very important for the success of the program.

Strategic Plan Initiatives:

Ministry Councils affirmed their council initiatives for the upcoming fiscal year as follows:

Facilities --Tony confirmed their initiatives: Continue to utilize the Hard Hat volunteers to minimize costs of capital improvement projects. Build an inventory of volunteers to contact as needs arise. Send thank-you notes to volunteers following the completion of service projects.

Faith Formation -- Judy suggested re-ordering their two objectives to read: Catechist recruitment and retention efforts, conduct a parish-wide survey, possibly dove-tailing with the Gallup survey.

Finance -- Julie B. confirmed their initiative of annual reporting of contributions of time and talent as well as treasure.

Justice - Julie W. confirmed their two initiatives: Continue to provide programs that teach Pax Christi about Catholic Social Teaching (hopefully in collaboration with Worship Council's initiative) and collaborate with the southwest faith community to educate and address community needs.

Lay Leadership -- Diana confirmed their two initiatives: provide continued leadership development opportunities and promote Lay Leadership grants. They will be refining these to include measurable outcomes.

Pastoral Care -- Doug confirmed their initiative to provide more intentional ministry for the age 55+ parish members.

Stewardship -- Carrie confirmed their continued focus on engagement, specifically on members who attend mass but do not participate in the life of Pax, and continuing to nurture new member engagement including some more secular gatherings such as caroling, etc.

Worship -- Eric confirmed their initiatives as development of a "Lord Teach Us to Be Just" educational series, hopefully in collaboration with Justice and Faith Formation, and continuing their calling campaign with personal invitations to parish events.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Shari Steffen