



COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 16, 2014

Minutes

Present: Phil Trovato, Mike Karas, Melissa Miller, Steve Jacobs, Mary Testin, Cheryl Bann, Pat Kelly, Mike Schneider, Brain Traxler, Mark Cox, Jack Kegel, Joe Stich, Bruce Koehn, Shari Steffen, Vicki Klima

Guests Present: Staff - Ken Reineccius, Michael Griffin, Fr. Herb Hayek, Jane Schmitz, Mary Kennedy, Donna Kasbohm

Guests Present: Members of the ME 25 Steering Committee - Steven Olinger, Wayne Ward, Stan Bann, Katie Donohue [Mark Cox, Vicki Klima, Mary Kennedy - also on other lists]

A. The bulk of the meeting was held from 5:45 pm - 6:25 pm and again from 8:25 pm - 9:15 pm. The main order of business was to recap the history of the parish Strategic Plan and determine what we will be doing in the future on the plan.

1. Steven Olinger presented the history of the Strategic Plan. The process began at a May 2010 Leadership Night and included all council members and all staff at the time. When the process ended we had five Strategic Initiatives that we wanted to implement. All of the initiatives involved increasing engagement in the parish. We discovered that the Gallup people had a member engagement survey called the ME 25. Parishioners took that survey in Feb 2013. Our Engagement Score is 3.45. Our goal is to increase that score to 3.55 when we take the survey again in the winter of 2016.

2. Mark Cox reminded us of the successes that councils had in developing Action Plans to increase engagement that they have implemented during the past year.

3. Wayne Ward facilitated a discussion of the current status of council Action Plans. We were looking at what worked, what were and are the challenges, and what the future plans are for each council.

www.paxchristi.com



a. Mike Karas reported for the Facilities Council. Their two projects, work on the St. Francis Shrine and the Adopt a Garden program, engaged many parishioners. They feel both were successful. They have not chosen what project they work on next to increase engagement.

b. Melissa Miller reported for the Faith Formation Council. They produced a video with personal stories from ten catechists. It has been well-received. They are uncertain how many people may have been influenced to become catechists because of the video, but feel it was a worthwhile project. It can continue to be used for future catechist recruitment. They are uncertain what comes next, but have the following that they are looking at: periodic gatherings of catechists; sending thank you notes to catechists; supporting catechists; family friendly movie reviews.

c. Steve Jacobs reported for the Finance Council. They originally chose sending thank you notes to members. The project lagged due to concerns about privacy regarding people's contributions. They will either determine a way to implement the project, or they will come up with a new project to increase engagement.

d. Mary Testin reported for the Justice Council. Their project is ongoing. They are trying to increase involvement with the people who receive Pax Christi Justice Grants. They are using the gift inventory to invite people to work on projects that match their gifts. They also want to educate the parish on justice issues and volunteer opportunities.

e. Phil Trovato reported for the Lay Leadership Council. They are working to be pro-active with uncovering names for discernment and getting people to volunteer for council membership each year. A specific project is almost ready to launch. Sam Cleveland will be offering a course to teach people how to write a spirituality journal.

f. Pat Kelly reported for the Pastoral Care Council. They have been working on three projects. 1) We hired a parish nurse who began her ministry here last November. 2) They are ready to begin a pet visiting ministry. 3) They have also begun a ministry to transport people to Pax Christi's events. The second and third are ongoing. They don't have any other future ideas at this time.



g. Mike Schneider reported for the Stewardship Council. They reworked the gift and talent inventories to make them more user-friendly. They are hoping to come up with new ideas for popular activities such as the Fun Run. They would also like to broaden participation so that it isn't always the same people involved.

h. Brian Traxler reported for the Worship Council. They have had a lot of success in making phone calls to people in the parish, offering a personal invitation to a Pax Christi event. The burgundy bag project of bringing bags forward during Mass was a success that they hope to continue. They also have been working on reaching out to people with disabilities.

i. Shari Steffen told everyone about the formation of an Ad Hoc Communication Committee that is working on ways to communicate all of this good work to the parish and to the Eden Prairie community.

4. Stan Bann gave a presentation on the role of the Chairperson as we move forward with Action Plans over the next year. He told us who the liaisons are for each council.

- Facilities, Faith Formation
Steve Olinger
- Finance
Wayne Ward
- Justice, Stewardship
Katie Donohue
- Lay Leadership
Stan Bann
- Pastoral Care, Worship
Mark Cox

He also said, "That which gets measured gets done." The ME 25 Steering Committee would like to get monthly progress reports on each council's Action Plans. Stan provided a form to do these reports. The form is in Excel and will be emailed to everyone. Stan will also put the form into Word in case some people can't use Excel. Be sure to work with the ME 25 Steering Committee if you need help.

5. Katie Donohue talked about the future. She handed out the list of the items that were part of the brainstorming session last October. If councils have completed their Action Plans from last year, they are encouraged to make new plans from the list or outside of the list. Remember to



analyze needed resources, time and money, for any project. Everyone agreed that they do not need another joint session like we did last October in order to settle on new Action Plans.

6. ME 25 Steering Committee emails:

- Stan Bann: *stanbann@visi.com*
- Mark Cox: *markc@grandresteq.com*
- Katie Donohue: *katie.donohue@medtronic.com*
- Steven Olinger: *jsolinger@comcast.net*
- Wayne Ward: *wards1946@yahoo.com*
- Staff Liaisons: Vicki Klima *vklima@paxchristi.com*
Mary Kennedy *Mkennedy@paxchristi.com*

At this time, guests left the meeting.

B. The minutes of the August meeting were approved as written.

C. The Lay Leadership Council as part of the Leadership Development mission reported that they would like to do a survey of all council members to determine needs on leadership-related topics. They will have the survey ready by the October meeting through Survey Monkey. They will briefly visit the different councils in October to ask everyone to take the survey. They will not interfere with picture taking that also happens that evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Klima

Parish Director