

	Meeting Minutes Pax Christi Monthly Council Meeting	COMMUNITY COUNCIL
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Council:	Community Council
Meeting Date:	5-19-2020
Minutes Prepared By:	Andrea Ward

Attendees:	Fred Baumer – Chair	Mike Kennedy
	Fr. Mike Byron	Andy Leet
	Jane Schmitz	Phyllis Olson
	Bruce Koehn	Dave Putrich Ricardo Ortiz-Nava
	Dale Nelson Mary Frances Messer – joined in at 5:47pm Nicholle Check	Mike Schneider Cindy Schuh Julie Tyler

Absent:	Carolyn Zucker	

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by Fred Baumer.

Opening Prayer: Mary Frances Messer led the opening prayer.

Approve Last Month Minutes: Minutes of the April 21, 2020 meeting were approved.

Approved Revisions: Camera loan is not from Tierney – but instead from the manufacturer.

1. Parish Update: Jane and Fr. Mike gave an overview of the current status of Pax Christi.

As stated in last Friday’s eNEWS, staff back this week and a COVID-19 preparedness plan to go to staff within the next few days. We are also preparing to start a gradual opening process, starting with ten person Masses on Tuesdays and Fridays in the main worship space. We’re not sure what type of response to expect from people about restarting Mass.

Longer term plans will be based on the recommendations of Catholic Mutual, the CDC, and the MN Department of Health. Communications, Liturgy, and Operations teams are working on a video of how things will work when the building is more open that will be shared with parishioners. These videos will give basic guidelines on the return to campus, particularly for worship.

Sacramental life is still happening with both on site and a very limited number off site visits from Fr. Mike. Streamed Masses are very well received.

Fr. Mike is not aware of a scheduled meeting between Governor Walz and Archbishop Hebda. Archbishop Hebda and other bishops are reportedly planning to meet with the governor's staff, likely to push for sooner opening for parishes.

(Post meeting note: Archbishop Hebda and the Minnesota Bishops released a letter on returning to Mass on Wednesday, May 20. The Community Council is looking to set up a meeting the week of May 25 to discuss the implications of his announcement for Pax Christi.)

2. Financial PPP Loan Update: Discussion lead by Mike Kennedy.

The PPP loan has been repaid. The loan was originally taken out under the guidance of the Archdiocese, but rules by the Treasury were still being written and were changed and added after the fact. Businesses were given the ability to get out of loan without consequences within a very short window of time. Because of the short window we had to work with, the Finance and Development Council and Executive Leadership met and voted to return the fund on Monday, May 11, since there were other sources of liquidity available to the parish through reserves. Executive leadership formed a proxy to the Archdiocese to receive approval to return the PPP loan.

The parish will be able to participate in the Employee Retention Program that offers payroll tax credits for businesses. This program has no application process.

Approval of returning loan: unanimous approval by voting members

3. Leadership Update for 2020-2021: Dave Putrich led the discussion.

Many thanks to the Council members who were making phone calls to invite individuals to consider joining their council! On May 29, there will be a video made of the LLDE information night that had been planned for earlier this month. This will be made available to the councils early in June, before being sent to prospective council members along with a letter from Fr. Mike.

In total we have received 50 nominees (please note that nominations are still open) and 25 people have committed to continuing the discernment process. There are 30 seats opening on councils for the 2020-2021 year.

There will be an extra Community Council meeting on July 21 with current Community Council and with new chairs invited. Please start conversations with prospective new chairs now so that new leadership is identified by the June meeting. Information about the roles and responsibilities and the steps for the leadership discernment process are available on page 37 of leadership guide.

While discussing youth involvement in the leadership of Pax Christi, it was noted that there were four youth on councils this year and all have expressed interest in returning for a second year. This is great progress! How do we support the trend with the end goal of having a youth leader on each of the councils? Jane proposed a possible Youth Leadership Council of Middle School and High School youth that are not yet eligible for a council position that could help build future leadership. This could be based on Skills Finders program that Evan introduced to the Middle School program this year. The Lifelong Faith Formation Council will discuss the possibility of this and decide if it is something that they want to move forward.

4. Parish Census Update: Nicolle Check led the discussion.

Communication Council talking tonight about census and plan to present the vehicle to be used for the census during the August meeting. The Council is seeking input from the Community Council on what types of questions they think would add value to the census.

- What type of volunteer opportunities would you like to see?

- Nicholle suggested radio buttons with categories of volunteer opportunities that would mirror the SERVE site, as a full list of ministries that exist could be overwhelming to people.
- Possibly have an “other” option that would include a text box for parishioners to enter their own answers.
- Are the individuals currently in ministry?
- Should there be an option of forms to opt out from all communication from Pax Christi?
- If Council members think of more, they will contact Nicholle directly.

There was a clarification about what information we currently hold: age demographics are currently available, but are based on information from last census. They are available on page 9 of the leadership binder.

5. End of Pax Christi 2019-2020 Council Year Strategic Plan Review: Fred Baumer led the discussion.

A small group, some from the former Strategic Plan members and some new people, has been formed and will be working to adjust the existing Strategic Plan by August. These adjustments will be directional changes, not an overhaul, centering on data updates and refocusing during these changing times.

6. Worship Council Input Request: Phyllis Olson led the discussion.

There were two main focuses of discussion under this topic: facilitating continued community between parishioners during this time of social distancing and enabling open and transparent communication between the community and the staff.

Because of the pandemic, we’ll be in this new social state for a long time and with many people facing difficult times returning. The Worship Council is looking for input on ways to reach out to people who won’t be returning to the physical building right away to keep them connected to the larger community and to facilitate feedback from parishioners and people that can’t easily be reached. What is the feedback mechanism for our parish? There is a concern is that if we aren’t asking for feedback, when people give it, it can be experienced as criticism.

Some of this has already been happening. The group that usually gets together after daily Mass for coffee have facilitated their own virtual gatherings, the Calling Committee through Care and Support has been greatly appreciated, and the rosary group prays the rosary together.

Phyllis, in previous conversation with Melissa Nault, suggested the possibility of an open chat time after Mass is streamed using Zoom. The idea of a virtual town hall was also brought up. There was also a question about why the comment section on videos is moderated.

While it is not publicly visible, the staff have been receiving a lot of feedback during this time, both positive and negative. We also have to keep Safe Environment standards in mind as we plan how to proceed. Balancing the well-being of the staff and all parishioners and opening up for more feedback will need to be done carefully.

Fr. Mike is open to the possibility, but we’re not sure what this would be at this time. For now, Council chairs are asked to approach their councils to give feedback and share anything they are hearing from others in the community.

Next Meeting – June 16, 2020

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Ward.