

Minutes

Our Lady of the Lake Pastoral Council

January 21, 2015

Meeting Called by Julie Smith

Members:

Monsignor Michael Sexton

Julie Smith

Mark McRae

Gloria Rodgers

Karen Hand

Serge Brazzolotto

Carl Rochford

Stephen Reese

Beth Brouillette

David Springer

Attendees:

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

Y

N

N

Guests:

James Raynor

Mission Statement: "As witness to the love of Jesus Christ, our parish commits to be a more active and compassionate faith community."

- I. **Opening Prayer:**Gloria Rodgers opened the meeting in prayer.
- II. **Minutes Approved from November Meeting:**Serge and Karen approved the minutes.
- III. **Committee and Ministry Updates:**

A. Finance Report: The finance report was provided and can be found in the office. Audit was performed in October by the Dioceses in a rotating schedule (every 3 to 4 years). A report was provided with some recommendations. In general it was a good audit and overall good report. Based on the audit, the building fund will pay taxes to the Dioceses and will not qualify for tax exception. Income from interest in checking account will also be taxable.

In addition, a meeting regarding the annexation of the new property to Pell City will take place January 22. The idea is to make the new property be inside the city limits

therefore any construction done in the future will have sewer, water, fire protection, etc, provided by the city.

- B. Knights of Columbus:** The KOC will meet next Monday January 26. Their big fund raising event is the fish fry. The fish fry will start Friday February 20, 2015 followed by the station of the cross. Ash Wednesday is February 18, 2015. Prices for this year's fish fry will be evaluated in the upcoming meeting. In addition, since the 5th Sunday of March is Palm Sunday, the KOC requested to move the KOC mass to the 4th Sunday, March 22, 2015.
- C. Youth Group:** The director of the youth group, Peter Boyle, will be in February's meeting to talk with the members of the pastoral council.
- D. Religious Education:** A report was submitted and can be found in the office.
- E. Finance Committee:** A report was not submitted.
- F. Hospitality Committee:** Karen informed that based on the sign-up sheets, 175 people participate in the annual Christmas Lunch and thanked everybody for their help cooking, serving and cleaning. The next Annual Christmas Lunch is scheduled for Sunday December 13, 2015. This year it will be an early dinner held at 4 pm to avoid rushing and confusing at Celebrations. Father and members of the Pastoral Council agreed to move the time.

IV. Old Business:

- A. Catholic Outreach Mission:** Deacon Serge contacted the people from the list of volunteers. This committee is formed to reach inactive Catholics. The members are ready for a kick-off meeting to spread the word. The members of this committee will meet with Father on Wednesday January 28, 2015 after the 7:00 pm mass. Also, Father emphasized the importance of keeping confidentiality.

- B. Pastoral Council Goals:** Carl Rochford when over the steps with each of the goal leaders.
Improve the welcoming feeling at OLL –Carl Rochford
Carl mentioned the idea of donuts with the pastoral council to meet with parishioners and share with them about what are we doing and at the same time get some feedback from them. He suggested meeting after RE is completed, maybe starting in June after the 8:30 am mass and maybe alternating with Saturday mass to involve people from both days.

It was suggested to use a red card that new people or visitors will fill out each Sunday. The card will be put in the baskets during collection time and Father will welcome them by name at the end of the mass.

Help improve the faith of our church family – Stephen Reese

Through adult education, talks like the ones provided by Deacon Terry on Sunday. Next talk will be on Sunday February 15, 2015. The topic will be getting ready for lent.

Do a survey to know who will be interest in participating in a prayer group and based on the survey create the prayer groups.

Stephen encourage everybody to think about how the council can promote the upcoming Lenten Mission and reflect about how to improve the mission for next year. The Lenten Mission is schedule for March 9th-11th at 7 pm.

Improve the stewardship participating to get more people involved in activities – Karen Hand

Karen suggesting giving the opportunity to people to sign up more than just once a year during stewardship fair. Also, we should welcome people before and after mass. Encourage service to the church and review your service. How does it make you feel? Maybe changing your ministry if you think it will be more beneficial to the church and yourself. Karen will talk during the masses about stewardship.

Father wants to evaluate the funeral receptions. Phyllis needs some help. The pastoral council will talk about it during the next meeting.

V. New Business:

- A. Parish Directory – Olan Mills to take pictures:** email addresses will be added to the directory. The church will provide volunteers and workers during pictures. The directory will have no cost. Pictures will probably be taken at the end of July so some of our college students can be in the pictures.
- B. Parish Lenten Mission:** the Mission will be held on March 9th-11th. Visiting priest will come to speak at our Mission.
- C. Discuss next meeting date:** our next meeting was scheduled for February 25th because of Ash Wednesday is on the third Wednesday this year. Also, our meeting in March will be held on March 25th because the feast of St. Joseph is Wednesday March 18th.
- D. Request from a parishioner:** Julie read an email sent by a parishioner requesting putting a ban on smoking in the church grounds. The pastoral council will further evaluate this request and maybe designate specific areas where smoking will be allow like it is done in hospitals and other public places.

VI. Closing Prayer: Monsignor Sexton closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting will be held on February 25, 2015