**Our Lady of Peace Parish**

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

**March 8, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eric Koranteng at 6:32 p.m. in the Counters Room of the OLOP Rectory and opened with a prayer by Fr. Walter Dziordz.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Fr. Walter Dziordz, Eric Koranteng, Diane Ray, Mae Ciancio, Bernie Maresh, Walter Block, and Jane Moss.

Apologies: Dennis Morajda, Kellie Moore

New member Jane Moss was introduced and welcomed to the Council by Eric Koranteng.

**AGENDA:** Chairman Eric Koranteng called for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Mae Ciancio tabled a motion to this effect, which was seconded by Diane Ray. All voted to approve the March 8, 2018 meeting agenda.

**MINUTES:** After careful review of the February 6, 2018 meeting minutes, Chairman Eric Koranteng called for a motion to approve the said Minutes. Diane Ray tabled a motion, which was seconded by Mae Ciancio. All voted in favor of approving the minutes.

**OPENING REMARKS:** Chairman Eric Koranteng thanked all members for their selfless service to our parish. Parish council helps all ministries by strengthening them building from ground up. These ministries are essential for the growth of our parish. All ministries need each other working together.

**SCHOOL:** Fr. Walter – The new principal search for the school has begun. After speaking with Fr. De Salvo from St. Isaac Jogues, it was suggested that the services of a Headhunter be sought in the principal search. The headhunter along with the Diocese Catholic Schools Office would work together to find the best possible candidate from a wider pool. With enrollment down, the new principal would use his/her expertise and skills to remedy this problem as well as keeping the curriculum strong.

**FORMED.ORG:** Diane Ray said this new website is up and running. The first launch will be the last night of the Parish Mission. Bookmarks with the access code on them will be handed out as parishioners enter church.

If parishioners register on the website, the parish will have their email and can see how many people are using the program.

The school can implement at any time, but it will need to be approved so children can use FORMED.org.

There will be a follow up on Divine Mercy Sunday as well as regular parish bulletin articles.

**BUSINESS OF DAY:** Friday evening Holy Hour seems to be going well. About 30—35 people are attending this Friday evening service. It is scheduled to run through June with Fr. Michael leading this service.

Bernie Maresh reported that the Holy Name Society will be praying in the church for Eucharistic Adoration until midnight after Holy Thursday Evening Mass.

Stewardship of Time, Talent, and Treasure – There seemed to be some confusion in the inconsistency of information delivered. It is intended to be a spiritual concept rather than monetary. It is not designed to be a capital campaign.

Mass of Appreciation will be Tuesday, May 8 beginning at 6:30 p.m. After, pizza will be served by the clergy for members of all ministries and spouses. Save the date notices will go out soon and will be published in the Sunday bulletin about 6 weeks before. This will be the kickoff to Time, Talent, and Treasure.

After discussion about the Parish Welcome program, it was suggested that Fr. Walter call newly registered families to welcome them personally to the parish. Then there would be a quarterly follow up, possibly coffee and donuts, to introduce them to the various ministries they could become involved with in the parish. About 20 new families have registered since the beginning of the year.

Mae Ciancio is the Welcome Ministry Committee facilitator. This program would be rolled out in phases.

Mae will write up some talking points for Fr. Walter to use when he calls new parishioners, so all will get the same message about our parish.

Fr. Walter will meet with the Deacons of OLOP to get their input on the Parish Welcome program, specifically with regards to the script/talking points to be employed for the “Pastor phone calls” to the newly registered parishioners.

Council members commented how nice the weekly bulletin is looking with much information about parish life. There may be an insert in the bulletin about all the different parish ministries, so parishioners can volunteer where they have an interest or calling.

Capital gifts – Parking lot pledges continue to come in well. With the age of the church, there are going to be needed repairs or replacements coming up, such as the furnaces and lighting. Renovations could include an elevator, new confessionals, and enlarging the narthex.

Possibly a Finance Council member may attend the April or May meeting to give updates on future improvements to the campus and the status of weekly donations.

It was asked if there could be extra monthly envelopes designated for repairs. People tend to respond better if asking for something specific, such as the parking lot and the sound system.

It is hoped with the weekly giving incline there would be more money to set aside for repairs. Also, it is hoped that parishioners will give serious consideration to estate planning for the church.

Diane Ray asked if it would be possible for a basket of the offerings be presented at the altar. She also asked if there could be extra collection envelopes could be available for people who forgot their envelopes and for visitors.

Discussion continued about updating the Parish website to make it more user friendly. Eric will discuss this with Kellie. A concern was brought up about using a credit card to make donations on line. For the weekly offering and a Food Pantry donation, the credit card had to be entered for each donation. This will also be discussed with Kellie.

Wally Block commented about the success of Fr. Peter’s special collection for repairs to his church in Poland.

 **LOVE CHRISTIAN:** Fr. Walter had received an invitation to their annual meeting on

 **CLEARING HOUSE** March 15, which he forwarded to Eric. Their premise is that one

 church may not have all the financial resources to help the

 people coming to them. But with many churches working

 together this could be a possibility. Presently there are 28

 churches in the area involved with the Clearinghouse. They help

 with larger expenses such as rent, utilities, and car repairs, etc.

 We could possibly become involved through the Food Pantry.

 There have been requests that we have not been able to

 support because funds were not available. Eric was going to

 speak with Len Benes to see if he was available to attend this

 meeting and gather information.

**UPCOMING EVENTS (APPROVED):**

1. Parish Mission 3/12/18 – 3/14/18 (OLOP – 7 p.m. each night
2. Fish Fry: 3/24/18 (4:30 – 7:30 p.m.)
3. OLOP Auction & Gala: 4/6/18 (Burr Ridge Marriott, 6:30p.m.)
4. OLOP Comedy Night: 4/28/2018 (OLOP School Gym, 8:00 – 10:30 p.m.)
5. Mass of Appreciation: 5/7/18 7:00 followed by pizza in school gym.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Eric thanked everyone for coming and working to support our parish.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15p.m., with a closing prayer.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2018.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Moss. Reviewed and adopted by Council on

April 19, 2018.