

St. Mark's Parish Pastoral Council

November 14, 2018

In Attendance:

Beyea, Dianne
Burns, Fr. Owen
Carvell, Trinda

Connors, Michele
Doherty, Bob
Ellis, Wendy

Howe, Marilyn
Little, Peter
Stroud, Anne

Absent:

Glasgow, Mary Alice
Johnson, Kayla

MacDonald, Mike
McGrath, Lawrence

Sullivan, Michelle
Vienneau, Ben

The meeting was called to order by Chair Michele Connors at 7:15pm.

The opening prayer was led by Anne Stroud.

The minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting of Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), were approved on a motion by Marilyn Howe and seconded by Peter Little.

Three items were added to our meeting agenda:

1. an update by Bill Stroud, who represents St. Mark's on Regional Pastoral Council
2. continuing education for PPC members
3. a request from a parishioner that will be brought forward by Trinda

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- 1. Role of PPC-current and future:** Michele shared a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Strategic Plan-Check-in for PPC". Michele will e-mail this presentation to all members who were in attendance at the Council meeting. Material covered in this presentation included: building a strategic plan, development of operating principles which will eventually translate into values, preliminary goals (from Parish Support Team brain-storming session), our desired outcomes, setting priorities, dreams and strategic next steps.

Michele spoke briefly about leadership, ie. the need for parish leaders to fit into the FACT model (faithful, available, competent and teachable), the possibility of appointing leaders versus electing them, and she noted that, in future, all leaders may need to complete Alpha before assuming leadership roles.

Michele emphasised that much of the material contained in her presentation was developed by the Parish Support Team (PST) during meetings held over the summer and is preliminary only. The PST was inspired to begin its work after some team members attended DR18, the Divine Renovation conference held at St. Benedict Parish, Halifax in June. Gaps have been identified, but Gap Analysis has not yet been done. It is anticipated that Council will be able to assist PST with this. In January 2019, PST plans to hold a strategy exercise and will invite members of the PPC, and some additional parishioners, to attend.

Minutes by Anne Stroud.

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Michele stated that although PPC and PST are still discerning our roles, we are certain of the value of the people around the table. She requested that we continue to think and pray about our roles. She also asked that anyone who missed the October 13/14 Revitalization Launch presentation to view it on our parish website.

New Business

- 1. Format of December Council meeting:** Council decided to shorten our December meeting so that we can share a time of fellowship with members of the Liturgy Committee and PST. Members are asked to bring sweets or finger foods. Beverages will be provided. Dianne will invite the members of the PST and Liturgy groups.
- 2. Continuing Education for Council Members:** Michele asked PPC members whether they wish to participate in continuous learning-if so, do we want to read another book? Two topics suggested were: strategy and personal spiritual development. Bill Stroud recommended *Divine Renovation Apprentice* by Fr. Simon Lobo. Fr. Lobo is currently the pastor at St. Benedict Parish in Halifax. Marilyn stated that many of us have read for spiritual development on our own and that she felt the need to have more concrete, down to earth information about strategy. Trinda, Peter and Bob agreed. Michele asked that Fr. Burns, Wendy and Bill choose a book. It is intended that copies of the book selected will be distributed at our December PPC meeting.
- 3. Request from a parishioner:** Trinda: A parishioner has provided positive feedback about the 7 p.m. Mass. She is pleased that a "Welcome" is being offered from the lectern just prior to the start of the Mass, and she would like this to be done at our other two weekend Masses. The idea of offering a "Welcome" has been previously discussed at a Liturgy Committee meeting. As there are still some logistical issues to be worked out, a time frame for implementation has not yet been set. Fr. Burns will share this feedback with the Clergy Team and he will provide a response.

Update about Regional Pastoral Council (RPC): Bill Stroud: RPC has been tasked with defining the role of parish councils, especially in smaller parishes. They have begun by reading *Lumen Gentium*, the dogmatic constitution of the Church, which was promulgated by His Holiness Pope Paul VI in 1964. RPC was interested to learn that St. Mark's has established a PST and that our PPC has read *Divine Renovation* by Fr. James Mallon.

The closing prayer was led by Trinda Carvell.

Our next PPC meeting is scheduled to take place on December 12 at 7:15pm in Room 1.