

## St. Mark's Parish Pastoral Council

June 14, 2017

### In Attendance:

Beyea, Dianne	Drummond, Mavis	Isaacs, Denise
Breen, Fr. Don	Glasgow, Mary Alice	MacDonald, Mike
Carey, Pat	Hache, Charles	Murphy, Dave
Carvell, Trinda	Howe, Marilyn	Stroud, Anne

### Absent:

Arsenault, Sr. Mae	Johnson, Kayla	Lawlor, Bill
Ellis, Wendy		

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Pat Carey at 6:30pm.

The opening prayer was led by Mike MacDonald.

Pat welcomed the newly elected Council members who were in attendance: Sandra Brown and Michele Connors. Our other new member, Bob Doherty, was unable to attend due to a previous commitment and sent his regrets. Pat thanked those members of our current Council who are completing their terms: Charles Hache, Denise Isaacs and Dave Murphy. Anne Stroud will remain on Council to complete a second term. It was noted that both the new and current members were thanked during each mass last weekend, as well as in the bulletin. New members will commence their three year terms of office in September.

Pat briefly reviewed the minutes of the May 10, 2017 meeting, which were then approved on a motion by Trinda Carvell, and seconded by Charles Hache.

### **Business Arising from Previous Minutes:**

- 1. Diocesan Revitalization and Re-alignment Consultations:** Anne circulated copies of a document entitled "Feedback from St. Mark's Parish Revitalization/Re-alignment Meeting Held on May 25, 2017". This same document had been supplied to Council members prior to the meeting via e-mail. Anne prepared this document and it was mailed to the Catholic Leadership Institute in Wayne, PA USA by Dianne, along with ten individual feedback forms completed by parishioners. Pat spoke briefly about the meeting. He stated that, after he reviewed the effects that the adoption of the three distinct revitalization/re-alignment models would have on parishes in Quispamsis, Rothesay, Hampton, Norton, Sussex and Upham, a lively discussion took place. Denise indicated that she appreciated the categorizing of the effects related to each model as "Positive" and "Negative". Fr. Don expressed the opinion that the meeting was excellent, and that people appreciated this additional opportunity to express themselves. He stated that Parish Council should be proud of ourselves, and he noted that while we are currently working to re-align the parishes in our diocese, what we really need is to revitalize. A few strategies were suggested in the event a similar parish meeting is held in the future, including providing a microphone for use by the crowd and limiting the time each person may speak.

Minutes by Anne Stroud.

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### New Business:

1. **Election of the PPC Executive for 2017-18:** Pat submitted a proposed slate of officers, which was comprised of Pat Carey for Chair, Trinda Carvell for Vice-Chair and Anne Stroud for Secretary. The three candidates then left the room and Fr. Don proceeded with the election. The proposed list of officers was accepted by Council.
2. **PPC Priorities and Projects for 2017-18:** Pat asked both current and new members for their thoughts on the 2016-17 term and what they hope Council will accomplish next year. Pat mentioned that education and growth as a Parish Pastoral Council is important and is mentioned in our Council by-laws. He suggested that this is something we should consider for next year. In the past Council's focus has been on revitalization, youth and communication. Pat asked us to consider what goals we wish to concentrate on for 2017-18. During the discussion which followed, the following comments and suggestions were offered:

Denise: Continue to invite speakers from various parish ministries to speak to Council; continue with "Did You Know" (DYK) bulletin inserts. Anne commented that an insert featuring the Men of St. Mark's is ready to go out in the Fall. She is just waiting for Peter McGinn to advise her of the group's preferred date.

Mavis: Asked if the pilot of assigning PPC members as liaisons with various parish ministries would continue. First contacts were made, but new Council liaisons will need to be selected where current liaisons have completed their terms on Council. Ministries have been asked: "What do you do?" and "How can we help?" Pat indicated that we will re-visit this in the Fall.

Mike: Mentioned the need for a handbook for new parishioners. This will become especially important as parishes merge. A current booklet exists, but it likely needs to be updated and the information checked against the information on our Parish website. It was agreed that this might be a good project for 2017-18. Anne suggested that, in the meantime, copies of the DYK inserts previously issued could be available in a binder in the church foyer.

Mary Alice: Suggested that an e-mail list of all parishioners be created with the objective of sending out monthly or bi-monthly e-mails. She offered to look after content. Pat indicated that he currently has a basic list of parishioners' e-mail addresses in the form of an Excel spreadsheet. Michele thought that sending regular e-mails was a good idea, especially to those who are away from our Parish during the summer months.

### **Updates re: Parish Ministries:**

1. **Peru Committee:** Anne provided an update regarding the scheduling of the annual Peru Committee Book sale, which was discussed during our May PPC meeting. Wendy Ellis has indicated there may be some changes made to the Religious Education Program for 2017-18. This could potentially free up a weekend for the sale; however, it is too early to finalize a Program schedule. Anne has discussed the sale logistics with the Peru Committee members and a decision will be made in the Fall as to whether or not a sale will be held in 2017. The Peru Committee Bake Sale and Plant Sale scheduled for June 3/4 was cancelled, as not enough members were available.

Denise advised Council that she has been in contact with Sr. Vera Aucoin of the Sisters of Mercy, who are based in Newfoundland, about the possibility of our Peru Committee assisting the Sisters' financially with their work in Peru. Sr. Rita Coumont put us in touch with Sr. Vera. Although no decision has been reached yet, this is looking like a good opportunity to continue our support of those in need in Peru. 100% of our donations would be used for the people

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there. Another option is Rainbows of Hope for Children Society, which is a non-profit group based in Edmonton, AB that has projects in Chincha Baja.

Fr. Don mentioned that he had the honour of celebrating the final "breaking of the link" recently with the Sisters of Charity (SCIC). A celebration took place at St. Luke's in Peru about the same time as the local one was held. Sr. Rita will visit Saint John in the Fall and another celebration is expected to take place at the Cathedral at that time. Charles asked why the Sisters' mission to St. Luke's had ended, and it was explained that there are no other SCIC sisters to send to Peru.

2. **Adult Religious Formation:** Mavis advised Council that there will be a Cursillo program offered in Sussex in November. This would be an adult weekend evangelization event. Fr. Don stated that many St. Mark's parishioners have previously attended Cursillo gatherings, and that we have the leadership here in our Parish to make this successful.

The meeting was called to a close by Pat Carey at 7pm.

The closing prayer was led by Fr. Don.