

Church of St. Mary
Parish Administrative Council
June 2, 2014
MINUTES

Present: Father Steve, Rick Conway, Bill Schindele, Bob Hogan, Penny Johnson, Sue Minnehan, Sharrie Follmann, Dave Reed, Kurt Schimek and Mary Nordstrom.

We began with our opening prayer and recommitment to our AFC vision. The April minutes and tonight's agenda were approved as printed.

Pastor's Report: Father Steve thanked the council for the gift from the parish. He appreciated it very much.

He also reported on the staffing of the Area Director of Faith Formation positions. Barb Garding will direct preschool-grade 2; Erin Wendt will direct grades 3-6; Diane Pyka will direct grades 7-9, and Christine Pinto will direct grades 10-12 and youth ministry. There are two possible candidates for the Director of Hispanic Ministry and RCIA. Father hopes to conduct these interviews during mid-June. Ron Skjong's employment will be completed at the end of June. We discussed whether to use the end of this fiscal year as the opportunity to move away from contracts for our exempt employees and switch them to at-will employees. A couple of years ago the diocese switched all of its employees from contracts to at-will.

Father gave an update on the parish's investments. At the recommendation of the subcommittee, we have moved some funds from the Equipment money market account to the Eagle account. The subcommittee is looking at investment options to be able to take advantage of the current market performance. There was also discussion on the current Foundation Fund annuity.

Area Council/Committee Reports: Father Steve gave a verbal report on last week's Area Pastoral Council meeting. The APC approved the common curriculum that was recommended by the Area Word Committee, and they approved the idea of one AFC budget for expenses for this upcoming fiscal year. Sharrie and Bob also gave a report on the meeting with all of the parish trustees where the one-budget concept was first discussed.

Father Steve also gave an update on St. Mary's Cemetery/Building and Grounds Committee. Nathan Streed will take over for Bob Jones as sexton of the cemetery. Bob has moved out of Willmar; we appreciate his many years of service.

Finance Reports: We are in a good financial position as of the end of April. We don't anticipate any major expenses for the remainder of the year. A recommendation was made to move funds from checking into the equipment fund by the end of June.

Information Items: Covered above.

Discussion/Action Items:

1. The Relay for Life fundraising request was approved. There was a concern noted about having it in the Gathering Space. The concern is that more groups will want the same permission to be in the Gathering Space.
2. We reviewed the budgeting process and the concept of having one budget for all (non-capital improvement) expenses in the area faith community. There was considerable discussion about how the process will take place, and what it will look like. This concept will help build the sense of community for people in each parish. This does not guarantee that each parish will have Mass every weekend, but it will hopefully help build relationships in each worship site, so that people are comfortable worshipping in the area faith community. There was a unanimous recommendation to approve the one-expense budget.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 9 at the All Council/Committee gathering.