

The Parish of St. Eugene Pastoral Council Minutes February 13, 2008

Attending: Father John Schneider, Jeff Williams, Wendy Murray, Mechelle Kobar, Traci Davis, Tommy Brooks, Carol Jordan, Richard Hurley, Dan Brown, Alejandra Padilla

Absent: Jerry Vincent, John Langlois

The meeting took place in meeting room #2 and opened with a prayer at 6:00 p.m.

The following agenda items were reviewed:

- **ELECTION PREPARATION/POTENTIAL CANDIDATES:** Fr. John, Jerry and Tommy have discussed potential candidates. Tommy asked that the council submit any additional names at this meeting and that he and Jerry would start preparation next week. To generate any further interest from the parish, it was suggested that a notice appear in the bulletin and announcements made at mass. The following is a timeline for the election process:

March 14 – last day to submit nominations for Council election

March 22 – last day to submit biographical information to Traci

March 25 – biographical information typed and given to church office for copying

March 29-30 – bios of nominees appear in bulletin

April 4-5 – bios of nominees appear in bulletin

April 12-13 – elections – mass coverage to distribute and collect ballots:

| Sat 5:30 pm Mechelle, Jerry, Tommy

| Sun 8:30 am Richard, Jeff, Dan

| Sun 11:00 am Carol, Traci

| Sun 1:30 pm Alejandra OR El Comite rep

| Sun 5:30 pm John, Wendy

Fr. John, Jeff and John will count the ballots.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

Babysitting Service for ESL classes after the Spanish Mass: The Latino Advocacy Committee has submitted a budget request for babysitters for parishioners taking ESL (English as a Second Language) classes. Fr. John reported that the budget must be reviewed to see if this is feasible. Updates forthcoming.

Bilingual Staff Person: discussion was held on whether having a part-time person on staff dedicated to assisting Spanish-speaking parishioners was necessary. With approximately two requests per week for these services, the council considered other benefits of having a bilingual person on staff. It was suggested that the El Comite and Fr. Bill determine how their current situation compares to their desired state, look at the budget and then decide if a dedicated staff person is necessary. After some discussion

regarding this issue, it was agreed that Fr. John would invite Fr. Bill to the next PPC meeting to allow the council to have a better understanding and to ask any questions they may have.

- BYLAWS

Jeff distributed a handout highlighting some of our Bylaws and how they differ from those recommended by the Diocese. Because the Diocese may soon be asking us to “update” our Bylaws, Jeff asked that we each review this list and maybe consider changing the wording of our Bylaws to match the wording of the Diocese.

- PASTORAL PLAN

Jeff reported that George Cobb (Diocesan Director of Planning) has asked that the council be mindful of spiritual context when working on the Pastoral Plan. George has nine global steps that he would like to discuss with the council. He will attend the PPC meeting on April 2 to discuss further our development of a Pastoral Plan.

As part of preparing ourselves for developing the Pastoral Plan, the council reviewed the Diocesan guidelines on parish commission structures. The seven commissions identified by the Diocese are:

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|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Liturgy and Worship | 5. Evangelization / Communication |
| 2. Community Ministries | 6. Education and Formation |
| 3. Parish Life | 7. Buildings / Facilities |
| 4. Ecumenism | |

The council spent the remainder of the meeting reviewing each commission, what areas and ministries were covered by and who was serving on that commission.

Traci will organize these commissions and information onto individual sheets that will be distributed to the council for review. Jeff encouraged the council to make any changes/additions that were necessary.

Development Pastoral Plan development takes anywhere from 12 to 18 months. More information will be forthcoming about developing a Pastoral Plan, particularly as the council develops a communication strategy to solicit input from and to keep parishioners apprised of the endeavor.

NOTE: Alejandra supplied the council with her email address: alejandrapad@live.com

The meeting was concluded with a closing prayer and adjourned at 8:00 pm. The next regular pastoral council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5 at 6:00 pm.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Traci Davis.