

Holy Spirit Church

Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2007

1.0 Attendees

Father Simmons, Mary Dailey, Veronica Hernandez, Larry Shepard, Dave Dubyoski, Denise Brown, Anne O'Connor, Jack Urbanski, Mike Perrone, Pamela Williams and Erma Protokowicz

2.0 Topics Discussed

The following topics were discussed at the meeting:

- Welcome/Opening Comments from Father
- Review of Bishop Rozanski's Report
- Committees
- By Laws
- Harford Assembly
- Homework
- Next Meeting

3.0 Meeting Minutes

Topic	Main Discussion
Welcome/ Opening Comments from Father	<p>Father opened the meeting informing the group that he wanted to start off on a good note and felt many unanswered questions came up at the last meeting. He talked about some of the projects he would like the Parish Council to help coordinate. One project Father needs a volunteer for is the creation of the Pictorial Directory, which is typically published every 5 years. His goal is to get as many parishioners involved and in the book.</p> <p>Father also mentioned that the committees are not as solid as he wishes. Father has started asking Kathy to insert information regarding each committee in the bulletin, but even still has not received much interest. Father believes if the committees are more active, the church would have more involvement. Father thinks the Pictorial Directory may be a good starting point to get activity from parishioners. He suggested the Pictorial Directory include individual pictures, along with committee group pictures.</p> <p>Father expressed his thoughts on the role of the Parish Council members. He stated the Parish Council members do not have to do all the work themselves. The Parish Council members simply must oversee. They must gain other people's involvement, delegate work to them and oversee to ensure projects are completed. The role of the Parish Council is to steer the other committees if necessary. Father wants the Parish Council to be open to all ideas, even those that were raised in the past.</p>
Review of Bishop Rozanski's Report	<p>Mary distributed a handout which outlined the recommendations provided to the Parish by Bishop Rozanski. The handout consisted of the recommendations for the Pastoral Council, the key tasks which the Pastoral Council should focus on, the objectives the Council outlined to address the recommendations last year and the commendations for the Parish Community. The Parish Council decided last year it would focus on the following objectives to begin addressing the recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote the Church's website• Hold a Town Hall Meeting• Hold a Committee Fair• Provide Greeters at weekly masses <p>The first two objectives have already been completed and we continue to</p>

	provide greeters at mass. The Council will focus now on the Committee Fair.
Committees	<p>Father Simmons has also been highlighting each committee in the weekly bulletins to bring attention to each committee. He hopes this will help Parishioners learn about and become interested in the committees. Our goal now is to educate the parish members on all committees and gain interest in them and then present the committees at the Committee Fair to teach people about each committee's role. One idea that was mentioned was having someone from each committee talk about each committee to those attending masses. The brief introduction should inform mass attendees the role of committee members, the commitment required and other details about the specific committee.</p> <p>Father expressed concern at the fact that we have committees with no members.</p> <p>Erma Protokowicz took time to review the activities handled by the committee she leads, Outreach and Social Justice. She started with a history of how the Sharing Table began with the involvement of Susan Graper. She confirmed that each church participates 3-4 times a year. The Sharing Table has been taking place at Prince of Peace. They usually have 12 people and 1 greeter participating. The 12 people serve meals. Often times, someone also hands out clothes. Since Susan Graper took over the homeless shelter, Erma has been responsible for the Sharing Table.</p> <p>Erma also talked to the Parish Council about the Welcome 1 Fellowship. She mentioned it is for people who have no where to go during the day. People go to the new Hope Christian Center in Edgewood from 9 am to 1 pm on weekdays. There are computers and other resources available to help people find employment.</p> <p>Finally, Erma also handles the Giving Tree, Narthex and Senior Bingo. Erma mentioned in the past, the Giving Tree focused on giving gifts to senior citizens. However, now the Giving Tree gives gifts to children in local schools.</p> <p>Erma stated it would be good to write up the accomplishments of the committees as some committees have accomplished so much.</p> <p>Erma concluded by telling us she will not be responsible for the Homeless Shelter volunteer coordination. Veronica will touch base with Susan Graper and will take lead on the homeless shelter with Peggy Doty's help.</p> <p>Overall, we need to provide the parishioners with more specific details on all the committees. We need to communicate to our Parish, the staffing issues we are facing, the accomplishments of each committee and the specific tasks and roles that need to be fulfilled in each committee.</p>
By Laws	Mary asked everyone to read the By Laws in detail and highlight changes which must be made so the By Laws can be updated. Suggestions for changes are welcomed.
Harford Assembly Update	The team members who attended the last Harford Assembly meeting provide an update on what was discussed at the last meeting. Basically, there are only few ordinations expected to the year 2015, which means there will be a shortage of priests and deacons. The churches will be expected to share priests if the shortage affects us. At the assembly meeting it was stated that churches should begin to work "together". For example, churches should plan events as groups.

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	<p>This may also facilitate opportunities for co-oping positions where one person can work part-time at several churches totaling into a full-time position. The assembly is also trying to pair churches up and provide Sister churches. Our sister church is St. Elizabeth in Baltimore City (Father Dousch). At this meeting, they also encourage churches to pool their resources together. The next Harford Assembly meeting is on September 11th at Mary Magdalene. David, Anne and Mike will attend with Father Simmons.</p>
Homework	<p>Take what was learned at the Parish Council meeting on 8/3/07 about the committees and provide ideas on what to do with that information to disseminate to the parishioners.</p> <p>Highlight sections in the By Laws which need to be updated.</p>
Next Meeting	<p>The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on September 21st at the Williamsburg Inn. Deacon Paul Mann will attend to educate the Parish Council on the duties of the council. Father Simmons will make reservations.</p> <p>The meeting in October is scheduled for October 12th at 6:30 pm at the Parish Center. Veronica will discuss pizza order with Lurine.</p>

4.0 Action Items

1. Father will make reservations for dinner at Williamsburg Inn on September 21st.
2. Veronica will send bulletin update requests to Kathy about the mass on October 1st and the Dinner at the convention center on September 6th for the send off of the Cardinal.
3. Liaisons will touch base with their Committee POCs to get an update on the Committees.