**Pastoral Advisory Council Minutes**

**June 13, 2022 7:00 PM**

**Attending:** Fr. Michael, Rob Kachmar, Barbara Cole, Steve Wyse, Monte Hauserman, Greg Humenesky, Tyson Theilen, Julia Beckley, Ivan Calil, Richard Frasco, Fernando Blanco, Steve Welsh, Lora Villarreal, and Leo Malo

**Absent:** Harry Kaplun and Greg Polito

**Opening Prayer:**Barbara

**Facilities and Finance:**

* *Facilities – Fr. Michael reported*
  + Construction is moving along according to plans.
  + There was a smooth transition of daily mass to the House of God’s Glory facility, with no drop off in attendance.
  + Their local pastor was inspired by our attendance numbers for daily mass.
  + Kudos to Wayne and Rita helping get everything setup in the mornings.
  + Unintentional A/C issues have been resolved.
  + Once we get our steel shipment, then we can work on the roof foundation.
  + The school admin offices have been demoed and are on track for August completion.
  + Art and Environment
    - Kevin put together a shopping list totaling around $8m
    - Top-tier donors will get first right of acceptance. Then it will go down the donor tiers until we get to the general parishioners.
  + 70% of church staff will be working from home, utilizing Trello to manage work
  + We hit an underground spring on the south side of our building, which was a bit of a surprise but handled efficiently.
* *Finance – Fr. Michael reported*
  + Vicki Ryan was comptroller for Thomas Aquinas school and church, and she’s going to be helping us out part-time.
  + Sunday collections are a little below pre-COVID but our expenses are also lower, so we currently have a $152K surplus
  + We will be putting in a letter of intent to Catholic Charities for welcome center furnishings
  + Artwork is not part of the original budget; it’s a separate fundraising effort
  + Tyson also reported:
    - Attended first committee meeting last month
    - It’s the only committee required by Canon law
    - Locked in 2.75% interest rate on the construction loan
    - Pledge commitment contributions were slightly behind, but 55% have already been paid.

**Pillar Subcommittee Reports:**

* *Communications and Technology – Julia reported*
  + Met with Tori for 2-hours to get training and permissions
  + The PAC page is up and running now
  + Everyone should submit a headshot to Julia so she can upload before our next meeting
  + Every ministry will have their own email address to avoid using personal emails
  + Send Julia any feedback on the PAC website
  + There’s an overall website refresh also going on, so please provide feedback to that effort as well.
  + There is a wider rebranding effort targeted for July 2023 due to the change in the roofline.
  + Tori mostly works on internal communications via the bulletin, newsletter, and Weekly Witness emails. She is interested to know if we want to expand our external mediums to include Instagram or other social media platforms, since we currently only use Facebook.
  + Is there any other outreach communications we want her to help with to broaden our reach in the community (ex. Yard signs, Easter mailer, event sponsoring like the Plano Turkey Trot, etc.)?
  + Barbara: We’ll digest these questions and see what we can come up with for our next meeting.
* *Young Church and Young Adults – Ivan reported*
  + Ice Cream social event and other intimate events like it will be spread throughout the Summer.
  + The kids and teachers are enjoying the POP Summer Camp at John Paul II High School
  + Fr. Michael: It was almost canceled due to construction but we were able to make it happen at John Paul II
* *Worship and Eucharistic Adoration – Monte reported*
  + Monte sent an introduction email to Lauren Scheller, the new RCIA lead, but still looking for a response.
  + 8 new adults added on Pentecost Sunday
  + Michael has quite a few couples coming to the marriage ministry
* *Path Finders – Steve W, reported*
  + He will be reaching out to Annette to get an update
* *Outreach – Laura and Fernando reported*
  + Reminder to everyone about the shoe drive
  + St. Vincent de Paul is very happy with the recent influx of funds from the church to support the ministry
  + In this first year we were able to assist over 400 families and gave over $140K
  + Fr. Michael: We haven’t abandoned contributing to poor schools. We’ve just changed our relationship to have more accountability. We are requesting that they submit receipts for their purchases before we refund them.
* *Knights of Columbus – Rich reported*
  + It’s been a good year, which ends on June 30th for the KoC fiscal year.
  + Robert Hetzel will be the new Grand Night in July.
  + We will host another Bingo event in the Fall
  + Breakfasts will remain on the 2nd Sundays.
  + The KoC is happy to break-even on the breakfasts, as long as we’re bringing together the community.
  + The next breakfast will be in August due to the break in July.
  + Introducing yourself to someone new was a good suggestion by Fr. Michael at the last mass.
  + Barbara: The parish kitchen supplies were cut, so there are concerns that the KoC may not have what they need. People want to know how they can help out.
    - Rich: Clarified that it’s the parish kitchen, which the Knights use once a month, so the KoC may not be the right group to spearhead any fundraising effort to that end. With that said, he will bring it up at the next Knights meeting to discuss ways they could potentially help.
  + Julia: Electronic donation methods are greatly appreciated to allow more donation options instead of strictly cash.

**Suggestion Box:**

* Barbara brought up staff member questions she had been hearing from the community
  + Greg H. confirmed we have about 20 members, which includes maintenance staff
  + How do we help others get to know them? Maybe name tags at the Knights’ Breakfast.
  + Fr. Michael: Part of managing down an HR heavy staff is to manage by attrition, not replacing full-time staff members who leave. It’s the preferred pastoral way, but it takes time. That is what POP has been doing and the increase in numbers of staff members does not represent an increase in payroll expenses.
  + Fr. Michael says we cannot gauge ministry by numbers; use numbers to gauge finances.
  + Barbara:
    - Older parishioners that are very involved in the community are grumbling
    - They don’t feel like they’re being heard, and they don’t know all these new staff members.
    - They feel we are becoming bureaucratic and losing our relationships
    - Many are grieving the loss of the old church, like leaving their childhood home. They feel like nothing they grew up with will be left for them to see.
    - Please be present and listen to our parishioners that are grieving through this construction transition.
  + Fr. Michael: He empathizes with older parishioners that are seeing all these buildings being torn down.
  + Monte was able to work with the staff to increase handicap spots in front of the gym with temporary cones and handicap bags. Listening to parishioners’ concerns and addressing them as they arise can help people feel heard and valued.
  + Leo: The KoC are meeting soon to try and reach out to KoC members that haven’t returned fully or at all since Covid.
    - Barbara: Please pass along any ideas or actions we can share with other areas of our community.

**Pastor’s Report:** *Fr. Michael reported*

* Staff changes
  + Fr. Stephen is now the Pastoral Administrator of St. Joseph Parish in Richardson.
  + Fr. Stephen’s going away event will be on June 25th.
  + Fr. Michael does workshops with new administrators throughout the year, so he’ll be helping Fr. Stephen out in the coming months.
  + Fr. Lucas is from Brazil and part of the Neocatechumenal Way; he will be joining our meetings in the future.
  + Fr. Timetayo is from Poland, part of the Neocatechumenal Way, and is going to be the 1st Catholic Chaplin at UTD. He’s a priest in residence. He is not on POP’s payroll.
  + Hilario is a new seminarian for the Summer
  + Kay Elliott announced retirement after 31 years.
  + Kay will help with the Safe Environment program as we transition.

**General**

* Barbara suggested adding prayers for the safety of the workers and Fr. Michael asked Greg to add it to our prayer intentions.
* The crew got a recent 96% safety rating.
* There is a group around the community called Seeking Calcutta, which helps with the homeless. It’s a separate 501 3c, not part of the parish.
* Discussion of a prayer service with House of God’s Glory at the end of our lease on their space for daily mass to celebrate a successful collaboration and express thanks.

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Michael

**Adjournment:**The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

**NEXT MEETING:**Monday,August 8th at 7:00 PM will be a Zoom meeting