

**CATHEDRAL OF THE SACRED HEART
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Monthly Meeting
October 8, 2009**

Members present: Fr. Patrick Golden, Carey Bliley, Joel Keith, Joe Jordan, Kathy Banks, LaShell Steward, Lori Gardner, Ike Wood, Glenn Poole, Dale Fater.

Excused: Angela Basmajian, Barbara Munjas, Joyce Drexler, Maria Thorsen, Donna Newcomb.

Absent: Deacon Brian Bergen, Deacon Marshall Banks, George Kasper, Don King.

The October meeting of the Pastoral Council of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart was begun with an opening prayer presented by Joe Jordan.

INTRODUCTIONS AND MINISTRY REPORTS:

Chairperson Lori Gardner introduced Dave Woods, who spoke on behalf of the Cathedral Building & Grounds Committee (B&G). Dave gave an overview of the condition of the Cathedral and related facilities, the restoration accomplishments to date, and a brief review of current and future maintenance needs. He stated that B&G needs a constant cash influx just to maintain the 100-year-old structure as is.

Dave went on to suggest several thoughts for fund raising for B&G, which included a Cathedral Gift Shop, an on-line gift shop with a link on the Cathedral web page, and a cultural festival which the Cathedral might host. He then gave a rundown of B&G's current membership, and answered several questions from Council members.

Lori then introduced Dale Fater, who was representing the Young Adult Ministry (YAM). Dale discussed some of the accomplishments and plans of YAM, including the possibility of a "Casino Night" as a fundraiser.

The minutes of the September Pastoral Council meeting were approved and accepted after minor corrections.

RECTOR'S REPORT:

Fr. Patrick brought to the Council's attention two adult education opportunities within the coming weeks, a 2-hour presentation on the Gospel of Luke, to be held October 15 in the Parish Hall, and a meeting at St Michaels on October 21 dealing with the proposed Parish Clustering plan.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Lori spoke briefly about the November Centennial Preservation Campaign Event scheduled for Thursday, November 12th. After discussion, the Council agreed to a change of date for the November meeting, moving it to the first Thursday, November 5.

Lori shared information from Nick Stein (Minister of Adult Formation and Campus Minister). Nick announced that there is a new VCU Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) Web Log (Blog), which can be accessed at www.vcucatholics.org. Lori invited Dale Fater to speak further at this time about the Young Adult Ministry.

OLD BUSINESS:

Glenn Poole spoke of his efforts to get a “Pastoral Council Spotlight” up and running. After a brief discussion and some valuable input from many members, he agreed to have examples prepared and distributed by (e-mail) before the November meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

H1N1 Fluenza and Cathedral: Ike and Kathy spoke of information that came from the Diocese concerning precautions to be considered during the H1N1 Flu outbreak. It was reiterated that hand sanitizer would be available to all Eucharistic Ministers, and that they were encouraged to use it prior to serving the Eucharist.

Action: Fr. Patrick would make an announcement at the beginning of each Mass that those wishing to refrain from bodily contact during the “Sign of the Peace” should have their wishes respected, and that the partaking of the Blood of Christ is not required during the Eucharist, for those who do not wish to do so.

Ushers and Homeless Support: Ike Wood spoke on the topic of Usher Support with regard to Homeless Assistance. He presented a Resource Guide he has compiled to assist ushers who are faced with questions from our homeless population.

Action: Copies of Ike’s resource guide will be left in the Sacristy and a copy will also be forwarded to Jenny Bliley, Chairman of Cathedral’s Human Concerns Ministry.

Carey Bliley spoke of an fledgling effort to attempt to enlist support for the Cathedral, from local parishes, to have them start thinking more of the Cathedral as their “Mother Church,” and to begin some sort of one-on-one partnering with local Diocesan parishes.

Cathedral Festival: There was further discussion about Dave Wood’s suggestion for a Cathedral Festival Fund raiser.

Action: Carey Bliley agreed to investigate possible strategies including identification of Festival leadership and will report back to Pastoral Council at the November meeting.

Action: Dale Fater suggested the possibility of a “Casino Night” fundraiser that YAM might sponsor and will provide more information on same at the next PC meeting. .

The meeting was closed with prayer provided by Joe Jordan. Dale Fater agreed to provide opening and closing prayer at the next Pastoral Council meeting which will be Thursday November 5, 2009 (5:30 pm) in the Parish Office prayers for the November meeting.

Submitted,

Glenn Poole