

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish
Worship Commission
Minutes of Meeting September 22, 2015

Members Present: Steve Szczap (Chair), Margy Reagan, Lois Latzy, Paul Von Erden, Bridget Dreher, Beth Brink, Mike Gardner, Michelle Meyer, Dominic Iannarino, Steve D. Lutz

Members Absent: Mary Green, Darlene Lewis

Ex Officio Present: Jeremy Helmes (Pastoral Associate) and John Stengel (Recording Sec.)

Ex Officio Absent: Fr. Geoff Drew (Pastor)

- I. Opening Prayer/Praying for Each Other – Dominic Opened the meeting with prayer at 7:03 PM
- II. Formation – “The Church of Mercy” – Chapters 1-10
 - A. Open minded to others thoughts. Unity and to seek the truth. Unity, reconciliation and communion. The same Mass celebrated around the world. Differences in liturgy, but Eucharist the same.
 - B. Pope Francis’ first Mass was focused on Mercy, which is at his core and his central theme.
 - C. Gossip creates conflict. “If there is gossip no harmony.”
 - D. Pope Francis is saying, do not judge but focus on each other’s humanity.
 - E. Archbishop Cupich - John Paul II told us what to do, Benedict XVI told us why we should do it, Francis is saying ‘do it’.
 - F. Our first duty is prayer.
 - G. Part 3 for the meeting in October.
- III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from August 25, 2015.
 - A. Steve moved to approve. Minutes approved with corrections.
- IV. Pastoral Associate Report
 - A. Working on having a presider’s chair and complimentary chairs for deacons and concelebrants. It was always intended to have a presider’s chair. We have a donor for the presider’s chair and 3 complementary chairs. We have a design and are looking for someone to build the chairs.
 - B. Mass 101 – 2 people showed up and they agreed to take part at a later time. It has been decided that in the future it will be offered with a “seed” group to provide a base of interested people.
 - C. No additional conversation on a homily series. Waiting for Father Marc to get settled into the parish.
 - D. Holy Days and Lenten Wednesday 6:30 AM Mass remains. No further discussion of early weekday Mass at this time.
- V. Continuing Business/Projects
 - A. Items related to WC from September PC Meeting – Margy
 - i. America needs Fatima at West Chester clock tower to pray the rosary on October 10th at 12:00 PM. This is a national effort. Trying to get 14,000 cities across the nation.
 - ii. 2 volunteers needed for PC for leadership discernment process. Looking for ways to improve the process.
 - iii. A member raised a question of repeatedly using the same hymns at communion.
 - iv. Recap on Day of Reflection: mixed feelings. Will look at survey results.
 - v. WC should spend time reflecting on what commission did to further the parish mission statement.
 - B. Archdiocesan training “Role of the Worship Commission” – Darlene/Steve
 - i. Held at St Andrew in Milford.
 - ii. Interesting discussions on budgets, lay prayer leaders, relationships with Pastors, Liturgical Training books, and other topics concerning the role of Worship Commissions within the parish.
 - iii. Steve and Darlene felt it was a good evening and reinforced a lot of the things we are already doing here at St Max.
 - C. Eucharistic-Centered Task Force
 - i. Pastor charters this task force.
 - ii. Do we have all the elements in place for the parishioners to live out a Eucharistic centered life?
 - iii. This task force is across all commissions and will be looking at what aspects we need to promote to be more Eucharistic centered.

- iv. Need 2 WC members on the Task Force.
- v. Over the course of the year meetings will be held to discuss formation.
- vi. Volunteers from WC to take our discussions to the task force.
- vii. Most of the work this year may be accomplished in sub-committees.
- viii. Need members on these committees.

D. Adoration Chapel

- i. The plan that has been completed meets the needs of what the Church requires.
- ii. What the plan lacks at this time are the details on how to make it obvious where the Chapel is located. Location should be obvious to anyone coming on campus. Looking for recommendations for the use of signage and possibly new doors to the Chapel to make the location more obvious.
- iii. Do we want to open back up a discussion of the plans that already exist? If we open this up we need to determine if all the needs are being met.
- iv. Steve suggested a committee be formed to work on the details of the original plan.
- v. Mike Gardner made a motion to form a 3 to 4 person committee to look into a possible short-term solution to make the Chapel more reverent. Mike volunteered his services to lead this committee.
 - 1. Mike feels current configuration is not the best experience for worship. He has been talking to many regular users of the Chapel and believes we could implement a short-term improvement to make the Chapel more reverent until the permanent plan is implemented.
 - 2. Mike would like to do a survey to help guide a short-term improvement. Bridgett suggested any survey should be open to the whole parish. Steve reminds the commission that all aspects of any change must be considered.
 - 3. Jeremy stated if WC reaches a consensus on any changes he will take them to Fr. Geoff.
 - 4. Steve seconds Mike's motion to form the committee to look into short-term changes, and calls for a vote.
 - 5. By a majority vote the proposal passes and a committee will be formed to look into a possible short-term change to the Chapel.

VI. New Business

A. Opening the Year of Mercy – Steve

- i. Open up year of mercy with a high profile reconciliation service. Recommendation to Pastor to open Year of Mercy and tie the opening to the reconciliation service already planned during Advent.
- ii. What do we do to make this service different and how should it be promoted to parish families to emphasize the Year of Mercy and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- iii. Please let Jeremy know your thoughts and ideas on how to highlight the Sacrament of Reconciliation during The Year of Mercy.

B. WC Vice Chair

- i. Need a Vice-Chair who will transition to Chair.
- ii. Vice-Chair needs to be in place before spring and will become Chair next year.
- iii. Steve asking members to please prayerfully discern serving as Vice-Chair.

C. Items introduced by Members

VII. Sub-Committee Signups need 9-10 people for four committees.

- A. Adoration Chapel - Short Term Changes
- B. Campus Plan Committee - PC
- C. Eucharist Centered Task Force
- D. Leadership Discernment - PC
- E. Steve will be sending out email summarizing who will be serving on the various committees.

VIII. Closing Prayer led by Dominic

- A. Meeting adjourned at 9:09 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Stengel, *Ex Officio* (Secretary)