

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish
Worship & Sacraments Commission
Minutes of Meeting August 22, 2017

Members Present: Mike Gardner (Chair), Michelle Meyer, Beth Brink, Christine Guerin, Adriana Inman, Dawn Mansour, Hope Davenport, Helena Osuber, Amy Wissel, Terry Schneeman

Members Absent: Susan Maddox, Michael Bolek

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 – Mike opened at 7:06 PM
 - A. Prayer and poem “Christ has no body but yours....” - St. Teresa of Ávila

- II. Introductions and Greetings
 - A. Serving on the WSC is a great opportunity to help worship at the parish.
 - B. The Mission of the Worship and Sacraments Commission
 - i. A sounding board for the parish – listen and bring items of concern and suggestions back to the commission for discussion.
 - ii. WSC makes recommendations to Jeremy and Fr. Geoff.
 - iii. WSC role is to help shape the policy for Worship and Sacraments in the parish.

- III. Formation-Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, paragraphs 122-130; General Instruction of the Roman Missal paragraphs 288-294
 - A. Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy – The vote approving the document at the Second Vatican Council had only four dissenters out of nearly 2,200 voters when it was approved in December 1963.
 - B. Prompts for discussion
 - i. What makes art, furniture, a building "sacred"? How do we distinguish "sacred" art and architecture from other art and architecture?
 - ii. What is the primary function of a church building?
 1. Church has not adopted any one particular style.
 2. The Church is living and growing.
 3. Should strive for noble beauty and to direct the mind toward God.
 4. Everything should be directing toward God and the Eucharist.
 5. The number and prominence of statues should not create confusion.
 6. First time in the history of the church where there was a clear statement that groups of people with expertise would be formed to advise the Bishop on design.
 - iii. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal
 1. St. Max started celebrating Mass in the gym. At Mother Teresa Catholic Elementary the Mass was celebrated in the cafeteria.
 2. Fr. Simon Peter was talking to Jeremy about the church being built in his parish in Uganda. They do not have a roof yet. Due to lack of funding the church is being built 1 bag of cement at a time.
 3. We have so much to be grateful for compared to many parts of the world and even our country. The Glenmary Home Missioners often use store fronts or buildings which are no more than sheds to celebrate Mass in many parts of the country.
 4. Noble Simplicity is used a lot in the Church documents.
 5. What points toward God is what is important.
 6. Paragraph 289 discusses how artistic expression can reflect all regions and peoples.
 7. Paragraph 290 states all churches should be dedicated or at least blessed.
 - a. Parish churches and cathedrals are dedicated. Chapels and other buildings can be blessed.
 - b. At St. Max wood crosses are on the walls to mark the locations where the walls were anointed. The altar was also anointed.

- IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from June 27, 2017.
 - A. Minutes approved with no changes.
 - B. Mike discussed instead of voting, we do thumbs up or thumbs down to reach a consensus.

C. Mike, Jeremy, and John to work on bullet point minutes.

V. Pastoral Associate Report

- A. To honor the 500th anniversary of the reformation, Lutheran and Catholic churches in our area are going to have three joint events. The idea is to celebrate the unity between Catholic and Lutheran churches.
- B. St. Susanna, St. John, St. Max Catholic churches, Christ the King and Lord of Life Lutheran churches. Three two hour events of dialog to discuss the points of unity between Catholic and Lutheran churches. A half hour of prayer and a one and half hour panel discussion.
 - i. Events will be in October at St. Susanna, Christ the King, and St. Max churches
 - ii. A common praying of the Apostles Creed during the service.
 - iii. Prayers will be led by a Lutheran pastor and a Catholic pastor.
 - iv. Dates will be 10/10 7-9pm at St. Susanna, 10/19 7-9pm – Christ the King, and 10/21 10–12am at St. Max.
- C. National Association of Pastoral Musicians Convention in Cincinnati went very well.

VI. Continuing Business/Projects

- A. Pastoral Council Liaison
 - i. Discussions were held about one person vs multiple people taking turns attending the meetings.
 - ii. Adriana will be the WSC representative attending the meetings.
 - iii. Dawn & Mike will rotate attending the Leadership Roundtable meetings.
- B. Chapel Fall Town Hall Meetings
 - i. All in all, people seem to be okay with the reconfiguration of the chapel.
 - ii. Jeremy has not heard any negative feedback concerning the change.
 - iii. Mike, Dawn, Jeremy, and Fr. Geoff have talked about the meetings and the proposal is to devote the first hour of the regular WSC September and October meetings to conduct the Town Hall meetings.
 - iv. Jeremy has posted a proposed agenda on the WSC website.
 - 1. Prayer
 - 2. Introduction of key people
 - 3. Principles of liturgical celebration vs. reservation
 - 4. Overview of the process leading up to this point
 - 5. Questions of clarification
 - 6. Dialog between parishioners and WSC
 - v. This is an opportunity for people in the parish to share their feedback.
 - vi. WSC will have a one hour agenda for the nights of the Town Halls. If no one shows for the Town Hall, WSC meeting will start and end earlier.
 - vii. Jeremy suggest we encourage people to RSVP to know what to expect.
 - 1. As a part of the RSVP we could ask them to express their concerns. This will give us a better idea of what to expect at the meetings. We could also send those interested some information about the reconfiguration ahead of the meeting.
 - 2. This is an opportunity at the mid-point of the trial for feedback and to come to a consensus about the big picture of the reconfiguration.
 - 3. People may come with concrete suggestions which may have to be considered.
 - 4. Jeremy will facilitate the hour. He will get out the publicity, set up the RSVP, and will send out information ahead of the meeting.
- C. New chapel seating configurations
 - i. The setup now gives quick access, but Mike would like to try some different seating configurations.
 - ii. Jeremy suggest trying to decide on two or three additional configurations for a couple of months to get a better idea of what will work the best.
 - 1. Jeremy would like to have four or five options drawn up using AutoCAD and then between now and the next meeting members should look at the options and decide on two or three configurations to try before a final decision is reached in the spring.
 - iii. Once the overall concept is approved, the process of hiring a lighting designer, selecting the fabrics, and other additional details can be decided.
 - iv. It was decided to take pictures of the setup now and then with each change in the seating. Hope volunteered to be the official photographer.
 - v. Terry talked about Mondays when RFY classes go to the chapel and the concern is that there may not be enough chairs.
 - 1. There are 62 chairs in the chapel at this time.
 - 2. Jeremy will talk to Mary Lou Baker so that the RFY team is aware of the changes in the seating.

D. Update on outdoor sign project – Christine

- i. Fr. Geoff and Larry had suggested waiting during the summer for this discussion.
- ii. Christine would like to startup the conversation again.
- iii. The concept of the electronic sign and the lightning of the directional signs is bigger than just the WSC. The Facilities Committee needs to also become involved in the discussion.
- iv. There are a lot of changes coming in the next few years with the new chapel and expansion of the gathering space. There will also be changes in the traffic pattern in and out of church as a result of the roundabout construction at Hamilton Mason Rd & Lesourdsville West Chester Rd. which will result in the intersection being closed for a period of time.
- v. Jeremy proposing WSC put together a proposal and then present it to some other groups.
- vi. A way to proceed would be to invite the chair and members of the Facilities Committee to come to a WSC meeting for a discussion. Getting the Facilities Committee on board seems to be the next logical step.
- vii. Mike is going to reach out to the Facilities Committee and invite to a WSC meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Recommendation by Dawn to honor head usher Walt Shaffer

- i. Walt was usher coordinator for 26 years and has recently stepped down.
- ii. We will be establishing a precedent. As we have not done anything like this in the past.
- iii. Something to honor and thank him for all the time he has given to the parish.
- iv. Mike suggesting a plaque and maybe recognition at a Mass.
- v. Jeremy asked about the scope of this award. Should it come from WSC or should it come from the parish as a stewardship award?
- vi. It was agreed that it is appropriate for WSC because his ministry is under the WSC.
- vii. Jeremy to discuss with Fr. Geoff and get his thoughts on what should be done.

B. Reminder about the day of reflection on this Saturday. There will be a group photo.

C. Will need volunteers for opening and closing prayers each month.

- i. Beth will do closing prayer/reflection next month.
- ii. Will do it alphabetically after next month.

VIII. Closing Reflection – Mike Gardner

A. What have we done tonight to draw people closer to the Lord? What have we done tonight to help engage parishioners? Express prayers of thanks.

- i. Work on chapel
- ii. Town hall meetings
- iii. Thanks for all those so invested in the parish and their years of service.
- iv. Helena thankful for everyone at the meeting and the Holy Spirit guiding us.

IX. Draft of Annual report.

A. Jeremy asking everyone to look it over and get back with him with any changes by September 1st.

X. Meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Stengel, *Ex Officio* (Secretary)