

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish
Worship & Sacraments Commission
Minutes of Meeting March 28, 2017

Members Present: Lois Latzy (Chair), Paul Von Erden, Mike Gardner, Christine Guerin, Adriana Inman, Susan Maddox, Darlene Lewis, Michelle Meyer, Paul Von Erden, Corey Moore

Members Absent: Beth Brink, Dawn Mansour

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 – Lois opened at 7:08 PM
- II. Discussion of Chapter 6 of Lazarus at the Table
 - A. Rights of Workers
 - B. As Americans we have been schooled in separation of church and state, but we cannot check our Catholic Christianity at the church doors.
 - C. Does the Church as employer live up to Church teaching? One example of where the policy falls short is the diocesan policy for maternity leave which is just three weeks.
 - D. It is okay for the kids to act like kids during Mass. It is good to hear children in church.
 - E. Companies now use the loophole in H-1B visas to bring in replacement workers to lower wages. Workers are being required to train their replacements who are being hired for half the wage. How can you have pride in your work when you are training replacements?
 - F. It seems like the bar is being lowered in schools instead of raising the bar. It is great to help people but at what cost. Kids get used to not having to work as hard with lower standards.
 - G. Some kids will take advantage of the lower requirements and less work. There are kids who are working hard to be assimilated into the culture, but there are also those who are taking advantage of lower requirements.
 - H. The entitlements can become generational and there is less incentive to work at real jobs. Working for the entitlements becomes their job.
 - I. Society tends to push workers to work more and give up family time. The fear for workers many times is that they will be looked down on at work and may not get a promotion if they do not work more and give up personal time. People may not spend enough time at “rest” as the Bible teaches.
 - J. The discussion of minimum wage on page 80. Some jobs are starter jobs and raising minimum wages can have negative impacts on employment and workers.
 - K. How much does the author’s personal views influence the way the ideas are presented in the book versus Church teaching?
 - L. There seems to be a lot of jobs available right now.
- III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from February 21, 2017.
 - A. Minutes approved with 1 change.
- IV. Pastoral Associate Report
 - A. Familia is an organization of families with school aged children focused on raising their children and participating in family events. It is a National/International group and there is a group of St. Max families that participate locally. It is not an official St. Max group.
 - B. Jeremy has approached Dave Flannigan about taking on leadership in the usher’s ministry. Not sure if Doug Zeik wants to continue as co-leader.
 - i. Jeremy wants to have a meeting with the ushers and greeters ministry leaders to discuss what the hospitality ministry should look like at St. Max. Should we continue to have two separate ministries, or should they be combined into one hospitality ministry.
 - ii. Leaders of the hospitality ministries may invite some of their members to attend other churches for four weeks over the summer to get a feel for what other churches are doing regarding hospitality. Jeremy may ask members of the WSC to do the same.
 - C. First communion/penance and confirmation to be offered in the spring and fall.
 - i. When confirmation was first offered in the fall five years ago 50 families participated in the fall and 70 in the spring and it has continued the same way.
 - ii. Currently there is a group weekend or families can choose other weeks during Eastertide for First Communion. Plan is to do the same thing in the fall.

- iii. The idea is to try to remove the time barriers to help families find the best time to prepare for these sacraments.

V. Pastor's February/March Monthly report

- A. Lay discernment May 13th, 16th, 18th.
- B. Lois asking other members to help Dawn and Adriana with the discernment meetings.
 - i. Saturday Morning May 13 – Lois and Adrianna
 - ii. Tuesday Morning May 16 – Dawn and Adrianna
 - iii. Thursday Evening May 18 - Mike and Paul
 - iv. Talk about what WSC is all about and the duties of members with those discerning.
- C. Combining ministry leader's meetings and discernment this year.
- D. Common meeting night for councils and commissions
 - i. One negative is if both members of the same family have a meeting and no one is available to watch the kids. Jeremy thinks we should maybe discourage spouses from serving at the same time.
 - ii. Whatever night is picked it will impact the scheduling of other ministries.
 - iii. The WSC consensus is in favor of a common meeting night. Benefits outweigh the negatives.
 - iv. Jeremy's guess is that this will not happen until the 2018-2019 year.

VI. Continuing Business/Projects

- A. Items related to WSC from March PC Meeting – Dawn attended the meeting.
 - i. Dawn gave Lois a print out of what was discussed.
 - ii. Once again commissions are highly encouraged to send the same person to PC meetings. WSC is the only commission who rotates members attending. All others send the same person each month. Next year there will be a different book for each commission, so the use of a common book is not a compelling argument to send the same person.
 - iii. Discussion on the length of Mass when there are special events such as baptisms, RCIA, etc. Fr. Geoff is opposed to letting people know ahead of time of these special events.
 - iv. \$52,000 from the CMA will come back to St Max for Outreach Ministries this year.
 - v. St. Max has the second highest usage of Formed in the country behind St Henry's in Dayton.
- B. Leadership Discernment report – Adriana/Dawn
 - i. Meeting held on March 5th to discuss the discernment process.
 - ii. April 1st – April 30th will be the period to turn in names for discernment.
 - iii. Council and commission members are being asked to nominate 2-3 people for discernment.
 - iv. The nomination forms will be at the end of the pews and can be filled out during Mass.
 - v. Trying to decide the best way to get the word out to the parish.
- C. FY 2017-2018 Budget review
 - i. FC has been given an initial view of the proposed budget.
 - ii. We may have a parochial vicar and a seminarian this coming year which will bring some added expense.
 - iii. The current thinking of the FC and Fr. Geoff is that you spend what you need and do not feel you are going to have funds taken out of your budget the following year if you do not spend all the money in your budget.
 - iv. If Arts and Environments presents some additional needed funds it can probably still be added to the budget. Jeremy needs a concrete proposal to add to the budget.
 - 1. Christine gave Jeremy and Lois some proposals.
 - v. Most of the online streaming expense is offset by fees from weddings and funerals.
 - 1. The shift for us is that we will not be paying a fee to StreamSpot, but we will need to train and pay a stipend to technicians to provide the robotic camera operation that StreamSpot was providing. StreamSpot is no longer going to provide this service.
 - 2. The viewership numbers are very good. A lot of benefits to streaming and archiving. People who are unable to attend events at our parish are very grateful to be able to watch them online.
 - 3. Everything scheduled through April will be covered by StreamSpot. Most companies will not provide the robotic camera operation because financially this service does not make money.
 - vi. Biggest increases are in the areas of Sacramental preparation.
 - 1. Jeremy took over the position last summer. He could not believe the budgeting amount for Sacramental preparation and wants an increase in the budget for this year.

- vii. Jeremy also wants a stipend sound technician for the church.
 - viii. Jeremy meeting with the A/V contractor about the problems with the current wireless microphones.
 - ix. Christine's proposal
 - 1. LED Sign \$3,000-\$4,000
 - a. Jeremy thinks WSC should talk to the Stewardship Commission and put together a joint proposal for the sign.
 - 2. Outside lights for directional signs
 - a. Jeremy thinks WSC and ministry leader should reach out to Facilities Commission and put together a joint proposal.
 - 3. Up/Spot Lighting for Stain Glass Windows
 - a. Realistic cost estimated at \$1,000.
 - b. Lightning Designer needs to get involved.
 - 4. St. Maximilian Kolbe Statue
 - a. Jeremy thinks we should not go cheap. He thinks it should be life size and have it commissioned. Possibly seeking donors for funding.
 - b. It could go in the middle of the current gathering space with the expansion. Maybe work it into the capital improvement project.
 - 5. Religious Decorations
 - a. Banners for each side of altar.
 - b. Something in the middle of the baptismal font as a focal point that can change by season.
 - x. Jeremy thinks that WSC should read about art and architecture for our formation reading since the WSC will be spending more time on these types of decisions. We can decide this at the May WSC meeting.
- D. Jeremy and Lois working on updating the bylaws. No substantial changes, just updating some of the wording.

VII. New Business

- A. Discussion of March 23rd Meeting with the Liturgical Design Consultant
 - i. Discussions with Ken were very productive when he was here. Expect in the next week or 2 a summary report focused on the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, some recommendations about the church, and some initial thoughts on the new chapel. A decision will then be made on engaging Ken further, or to move in a new direction.
 - ii. Ken engaged in discussions with Larry about color for the trial configuration.
 - iii. We want to do as little as we can because it is a trial and we may put it all back.
 - iv. Minimal adjustments for week of painting
 - 1. Tabernacle may be placed on the ledge in the church.
 - 2. Rosary will be in the church.
 - v. Mike asks who will decide and configure the chapel for the trial. Ken or someone will use Autocad to figure out what will work the best for the placement of the chairs.
 - 1. Plan is to take the options from Autocad and lay it out in the large conference room beforehand with the furniture.
 - 2. Autocad will take fire codes into account.
 - vi. Layout needs to be decided by Easter so that the plan is ready to go after Easter.
 - vii. Lois stated that Fr. Geoff wants us to know that this is a trial and if this new configuration does not work, the tabernacle will not go back to the way it is now. It may still go on the center of the big wall.
 - viii. Mike says a white cloth will make the tabernacle stand out in front of the window.

VIII. Christine closed the meeting with prayer for social justice.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Stengel, *Ex Officio* (Secretary)