

Mother of Perpetual Help Parish
Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes – Monday, March 2, 2020

A meeting of the Mother of Perpetual Help Pastoral Council was held in the Notre Dame Room at the 106th Street Site on Monday, March 2, 2020.

Council members in attendance were: Mary Maberry, Council Chair, Fr. Jeff Prasser, Fr. Thomas Vathappallil, Colleen Pluskota, Gil Van Blaricom, Grace Elliott, John Czepulis, Jon Leonardelli, and Mary Lou Hopkins; also in attendance were Darryl Draeger, Trustee, Mary Wenger, Parish Business Manager, and Susan Scharmach, Recording Secretary.

Excused from attending were Nancy Wilde and Doug Barnes.

1. The meeting was called to order by Mary Maberry at 6:35 PM
2. Opening Prayer: Fr. Jeff began with prayer, followed by the Mother of Perpetual Help prayer read by all
3. A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Grace Elliott, seconded by Darryl Draeger, and unanimously approved
4. Parishioner Petition – 116th Street Site
 - Fr. Jeff gave background on Petition request for continuation of 4:00 PM Saturday Mass at the 116th Street site as follows:
 - Gave permission for two-week timeframe which ended the weekend of 2/28-3/1
 - Unaware of exact wording, and has requested a copy of the original Petition
 - Will personally review Petition to be sure all signatures are from registered parishioners
 - Petition has become a bigger obstacle than he thought
 - Petition will not change anything as far as the worship site for Masses is concerned
 - All members of Council participated in discussion of the Petition and made the following points:
 - Parishioners had the right to start petition
 - Created false hope for some members
 - There is a need for focus on Parish unity
 - Time to begin process of blending of Parish Ministries
 - How do we get members to listen
 - Many Parish members from all sites think it is divisive
 - There was a misunderstanding of exact meaning of the Petition; some thought the 4:00 PM Mass was being cancelled
 - Council supports 1 site for liturgy and 1 site for ministries
 - School will occupy a great portion of the 116th Street building facility
 - Perhaps better to move to 1 liturgy site sooner rather than later
5. Lenten Opportunities
 - A. Brochure
 - Mary encouraged Council presence at the many different Lenten worship opportunities and suggested inviting a friend to join

- B. Minute of Silence before Mass
 - Need to get the ushers on board
 - Consensus that this is a time to focus on the Lord with prayerful meditation before Mass

- 6. Council Mailbox
 - Revitalization of the mailbox to promote parish unity
 - Council members to provide suggestions for questions
 - Thoughts for articles might be:
 - Why do I go to Mass
 - Difference between church as a place of worship and a building
 - What's good about being part of MPH
 - Ask members for thoughts on how to unify the MPH Parish
 - Council Mailboxes will be checked by Gil and Susan
 - Council will answer questions, send answers to Susan for editing, who will then send to Fr. Jeff, Fr. Thomas and Mary for final approval before sending to Leanne for publishing in the Bulletin

- 7. Business Items – Mary Wenger
 - Current registration is 1,179 families or 2,109 units
 - Pledge goal is to receive 500 responses
 - 358 pledge cards have been returned for a total pledge of \$510,000
 - All About Learning has been sold to Cadence which operates over 200 private preschools and elementary schools across the country; there will be no change in lease terms
 - Seton and Queen of Saints negotiating school terms regarding new site
 - Work to be done at 116th including asbestos, plumbing and electrical updates
 - Handouts of information regarding parish branding by LPI were passed out; after review and discussion, the following motion was made by Gil Van Blaricom, seconded by John Czepulis, and unanimously approved:

“Motion to approve the LPI Complete Parish Rebranding Package for the sum of \$2,495.”
 - Darryl Draeger, Gil Van Blaricom, and Mary Maberry to serve as a committee of three to work with Mary Wenger on parish rebranding

- 8. Council Elections
 - A. Council Size – Mary reported that the private email consensus resulted in the majority of Council members wanting to keep Council at 9 members

The following motion was made to revise the Appendix of the Parish Pastoral Council Norms by Grace Elliott, seconded by Mary Lou Hopkins, and unanimously approved:

“Council shall have nine (9) at-large representatives selected from and by the membership of the parish.”
 - B. Orientation, Nomination, Election (O.N.E.) Committee
 - Discussion on the election process, timeframe and committee to lead the process
 - 4 at-large Council vacancies to be filled
 - Grace Elliott and Mary Lou Hopkins will chair this process

9. New Business Items

A. Darryl Draeger

- Commenced discussion on taking proactive measures for protection during the flu season and possible Coronavirus outbreak
- Check Catholic Mutual regarding guidelines on flu prevention
- Possible (temporary) Elimination of common cup
- Eucharistic Ministers feeling ill to refrain from distributing communion

B. Grace Elliott

- Deanery request for parishioner volunteers to go door-to-door on the north and south sides of Milwaukee to remind people to get out and vote. This is a nonpartisan effort
- Easter Brochure example from Elizabeth Ann Seton for possible mailing

C. Other

- Festival replacement fund is half way to goal – budget: \$30,000; to-date: \$15,000
- Reminders re Pledge Cards to be made

10. Closing Prayer – Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM with a second Mother of Perpetual Prayer

Next Meeting – Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the Notre Dame Room at the 106th Street Site

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Scharmach,
Recording Secretary