

# Mother of Perpetual Help Parish

## Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – Monday, March 4, 2019

A meeting of the Mother of Perpetual Help Pastoral Council was held in the Parish Hall at the 116th Street Site on Monday, March 4, 2019.

Council members in attendance were: Mary Maberry, Council Chair, Fr. Jeff Prasser, Fr. Thomas Vathappallil, Gil Van Blaricom, Grace Elliott, John Czepulis, Jon Leonardelli, Mary Lou Hopkins, Darryl Draeger, Trustee, Gary Jensen, Trustee, and Nancy Wilde who acted as recording secretary; also in attendance were Deacon Keith Marx and Mary Wenger, Business Manager.

Absent were Anna Ferrise, Colleen Pluskota, Doug Barnes, and Susan Scharmach.

1. The meeting was called to order by Mary Maberry at 7:02 PM.
2. Opening Prayer: Mother of Perpetual Help Prayer.
3. Mary Maberry requested to amend the Agenda to add an item to New Business regarding prayer.

Motion to amend the Agenda to add *New Business Prayer* was made by Darryl Draeger, seconded by John Czepulis, and unanimously approved

4. Open Discussion–MQSCA/Seton School move to the 116th Street site
  - a) Fr. Jeff sent around a 2-page detailed Timeline describing the events which have occurred since our last meeting on January 7, 2019. *This document is attached to the file copy of these Minutes.* The meeting of January 16, 2019 included Archdiocesan Officials, Seton Representatives, Office for Schools representatives, Placement Board Representatives, Vicar's General and the West Allis/West Milwaukee Clergy. The Archbishop has postponed the sale of the 116th Street site. The future site of the school needs to be included in this consideration; however, this will not be the determining factor regarding the MPH Church site. It was made clear that the Archbishop has decided that the school will not close. Future meetings will address the permanent location of the school and of the MPH Church, financial viability for each entity, and future ministry planning for West Milwaukee and West Allis, as well as the ministry for Hispanic populations.

In early February a recommendation was received from the Archbishop to move the school to the 116th Street site. The five (5) Pastors met to address many issues. Financial subsidies involving the five (5) Parish communities were agreed upon and forwarded to the Archbishop. Thereafter, communication happened very quickly to the faculty, parents and members of the community. MPH Council Members and Parishioners received written communication as well.

- b) Council Members expressed concerns that the letter that went out to the Parishioners was "endorsed" by this body when, in fact, there was no awareness nor involvement. Much discussion ensued and it was agreed that in the future, more timely

communication will occur. Also, as this decision is implemented, a joint planning and communication process will be developed.

- c) Parishioners continue to hear information that is incomplete. They are also frustrated that things change and are asking for a decision to be made—whatever it is.
- d) It was concluded as follows:
  - More timely communication will happen within this Council.
  - Given the complexity of this process and the involvement of multiple parties, this is an evolution and the Parishioners need to receive updates more frequently.
  - The Archdiocese is in charge of these major decisions, and the Parishioners need to be aware of this. While input is taken into consideration, the ultimate decision is not ours.
- e) The next steps are:
  - The Priests will have a script to read from the pulpit to further clarify the Archbishop's decision regarding the school location as well as the location of the Parish church this coming weekend.
  - A second mailing will go out to all in the next week. Commitment to timely communication will be reinforced.
  - The Transition Team will continue its work on developing viable options for the Parish church. Perhaps separation of Worship and Ministry at different sites is viable.
  - Updates to the 92nd Street site are cost prohibitive.
  - Timing of school move could be 2019 or 2020. Tuition will be determined as will MPH (and other parishes') subsidy.
  - Mary Wenger is on a committee looking at revisions of the school subsidy.

## 5. New Business

- Mary Maberry brought back some thoughts from her attendance at the Pastoral Council Congress related to prayer. She asked us to pray for this Council and the major tasks ahead of us. To pray for our Parishioners and to pray with our Parishioners. This engenders trust and new relationships which is what we really are all about. Please take advantage of the many Lenten opportunities to come together and worship.
- Jon Leonardelli asked for participation from all members in the May Festival.

## 6. Closing Prayer – Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM with Our Parish+Our Pledge

Next Meeting – Monday, May 6, 2019, at 7:00 PM in the Notre Dame Room at the 106th Street Site.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Wilde, Acting Recording Secretary  
on behalf of Susan Scharmach