

November 2014 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
(11/5/2014, 6:30-7:30 PM, Hospitality House)

<u>Present:</u>	Fr. Edward Kacerguis (Pastor), Dn. Joseph Romand, James Brennan, Kathleen Flynn, Jean Francois, Fran Hyde, Marianne Monastero, Felipe Ortiz, Robert Thayer, William Webster
<u>Excused</u>	Veronica Ahiati, Katherine Clemente, Frederick Gallo, Georges Jaar, Geena Simila

Fr. Kacerguis opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes and Chair report (J. Brennan):

- October 2014 minutes approved as submitted.
- The Family Weekend Wine and Cheese Reception went well and received lots of favorable feedback.
- The Rensselaer Newman Foundation Board will meet on Friday, November 7, in the RPI Student Union.

Pastor's Report (Fr. Kacerguis):

- Thank you to the Brennans, the Newman Fellowship, and the Knights of Columbus and Tammy for hosting Reunion/Homecoming Weekend and Family Weekend events.
- The spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the soup kitchen went well. There were more desserts donated than needed. The extras are frozen for future use.
- New lectors and Eucharistic ministers are coming in.
- The Newman Foundation Fall meeting will be held on Friday, November 7. The bishop will be speaking at the Committee of 100 dinner.
- Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas are coming up. The calendar this year is interesting, with a number of weekday holy days falling on weekends.
- Finances are stable.
- Building exterior lights: a breaker was going off at night. An electrician changed the breakers, but the breaker continued to fail and the lights were out. The lights are working now; they are important for both lighting and security.

Newman Fellowship Report (K. Flynn):

- The Alumni/Reunion Weekend Brunch was successful. This was the second year the event was held and about 20 alumni attended. Good feedback was received.
- The apple pie/crisp sale was held on Family Weekend. The Fellowship picked 6 bushels of apples and made 73 pies/crisps. They were sold out after the 10:30 Mass.
- The meeting on Thursday, October 30 was a Halloween party. The C+CC decorations were set up in Hospitality House. About 15 people attended and decorated pumpkins; some wore costumes.
- At tomorrow's meeting, the Knights of Columbus will speak about Latin prayers.
- On November 22, members of the Fellowship will participate in the St. Jude's Give Thanks Walk.

Knights of Columbus Report (F. Ortiz):

- The Ten Year Reunion on October 18 went well. Founding Grand Knight Matt Kucera attended.
- The Knights co-hosted the Family Weekend Coffee Hour with Tammy, who was happy with its success.
- The Knights will be saying the Rosary on Tuesday.
- There will be a First Degree ceremony in 2 weeks.
- The Joseph's House dinner will be held on November 22. All are welcome to help.
- Elections will be held after Thanksgiving.

Vice-Chair Report:

- The Vice Chair position is currently vacant and the Council is seeking someone to fill that role.

Secretary Report (R.Thayer):

- No report.

Old Business:

- Spaghetti Dinner (J. Francois): There were 300 paid attendees. Costs have not yet been finalized to determine the distribution of funds. Attendance was busy at lunch and dinner, but slower between. Extra desserts will be used for the Soup Kitchen Thanksgiving dinner on November 20 (the week before Thanksgiving). The team from Christ Sun of Justice will help to serve the Thanksgiving dinner.
- Christmas Dinner (J. Francois): The Soup Kitchen Christmas Dinner will be held the Thursday before Christmas. Christ Sun of Justice will provide gift bags for children and personal care products for adults. There is also a letter from Unity House regarding the Adopt-a-Family program. We would like to provide options to participate, but too many options get confusing for people. There will be two options presented: (1) Gift cards for Unity House; (2) Gift bags for children or personal care products for the Christmas dinner.
- St. James School Fundraiser (W. Webster): The event is expanding beyond Christmas ornaments to include mug rugs and picture frames. Assistance from the Newman Fellowship and Knights of Columbus is requested for selling on the weekend of December 14. The Pastoral Council will be hosting the Coffee Hour that weekend.
- Coffee Hours (J. Brennan): We need to organize ourselves for the December 14 Coffee Hour. Mr. Brennan will reach out by email.

New Business:

- None.

The meeting concluded with prayer by Ms. Flynn.

Submitted By: Robert Thayer