

**September 2021 Resurrection Pastoral Council Meeting  
Held via Zoom**

**Sept 7, 2021**

Present: Mary Beth Coté, Pat Sormani, Linda Malm, Sharon Gidumal, Joe McClory, Julie Edmiston, Henry Xavier, Steve Grise, Joe Quinn, Fr. Greg Corrigan.

Absent:

Guests: Dick Schwer, Ginger Kaminetzer, Anne D'Ascoli

Welcome to Council, Guests

Sharon called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Reflection – by Steve Grise

Review / Approval of August Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved as written.

Pastor Comments

Fr. Greg had provided written comments ahead of the meeting, which all received.

Sharon mentioned Fr. Greg had provided good guidance for Council, that people are welcome to attend as guests. It's nothing new that guests are welcome. People interested in attending should contact Sharon by noon of the meeting day to get the zoom link. Fr. Greg mentioned that in person meetings could have an option for people to participate by video. It's good to have as many people as possible participating, seeing what we're about. He said, Pastoral Council is not just about business, it's also our prayer that brings us here.

Dick agreed with Fr Greg about guests being welcomed, and that meetings are open to all parishioners, as observers, not as participants. The by-laws, however, do include a provision in the order of business to open the floor to all Council members or guests to have their say.

Fr. Greg commented that people love to speak; he recalled a long prayer of the faithful at Mass one time. Therefore he suggests that people write down their comments or questions and present them that way. Also, there's a forum for members to have a discussion which is not public. For example, leaders of Council could meet in a confidential forum. He also commented that the opening reflection could lead to great insight and prayer.

Mary Beth commented that Fr. Bill had also wanted the opening prayer to be extended and allowing for those present to share, rather than just going on with the meeting. Mary Beth thought Fr. Greg was alluding to that, too.

Old Business:

## Reports/Updates

### Finance Council

Chip sent comments ahead of time. The budget was signed and submitted to the diocese and approved. Some new positions are included in the budget. We still have an opening for maintenance and for liturgy & music. For the position of Pastoral assistant/administration, Fr. Greg said they've had 2 applications, but there's a delay because we need to rewrite the job description; Chip is helping with this. One applicant is a woman who has a degree from Immaculata, with a ministry background, and willing to relocate from King of Prussia. The other applicant is a cannabis grower.

Fr. Greg said reported that Marsha Hook was hired as part time bookkeeper. Tina has helped with the interviews and getting Marcia set up.

Fr. Greg also indicated they are interviewing a woman for the maintenance position tomorrow. We've had 12 applicants. Rich Mayes has helped with screening applicants.

Dick asked about the liturgy & music position. Fr. Greg said it hasn't been advertised yet, although he did meet with someone a couple of months ago and offered the position to that person, but she turned it down. Fr. Greg acknowledged the delay is his fault. Fr. Greg was expecting to be at Resurrection as pastor for only one year; this was not generally known. So he asked certain people to help him (Steve, Jim Lennon, Sharon, Maritza) with liturgy and other things, but he didn't think they could all sustain that level of commitment indefinitely. Then Fr. Greg learned the bishop was asking him to continue, so that changed everything. He'd avoided hiring anyone because he didn't anticipate being here beyond a year. He acknowledged the help of everyone who had stepped up.

Sharon asked if Fr. Greg needed help with the liturgy job description. Debbie has already pulled out the previous job description. Previously there were 2 part time positions (liturgy and music) and then they were combined to a full time job. But we know we don't need a full time liturgy/music person at this time. But we should not assume all the people who've volunteered to help can continue to do as much as they've been doing.

In his email, Chip also commented on stewardship messaging and that they were considering including information around estate planning. Fr. Greg said they did decide to do that, and asked Ray Babiarz if he would speak about estate planning and Ray has agreed. Chip will do the stewardship talk first, then a week or two later Ray will do the piece on estate planning.

Since we were discussing the budget, Sharon asked about St. Damien's Children's hospital in Haiti. They were previously receiving donations by credit card per Tina, and we were told it had been stopped. Fr. Greg indicated that Fr. Bill is continuing the support on his own.

Dick asked for clarification because he was on the charitable giving committee when the funding for the “midwives for Haiti” program was switched to St. Damien’s. So he was surprised to hear this about Fr. Bill’s donations. Fr. Greg also commented that when Nancy Maloney was trying to find funds for a basketball team for the youth (and they did get uniforms and such) it turned out that Fr. Bill Graney paid it out of his own pocket.

So Tina was trying to clarify these things. Fr. Greg commented he signs checks each month; there was some discussion about sending funds to St. Catherine’s for Hispanic ministry in the past and now for the solidarity partnership with San Marcos; things are a bit unclear. Fr. Greg wants to make sure things are clear and transparent.

Dick further commented we are putting this info out to the parish about who we’re supporting and he wants the info to be accurate. Fr. Greg asked for Dick’s help and input in clarifying things and he agreed to help.

#### Religious Education

Anne spoke first. CFP starts on September 12, from 10:45 – 11:45 am. This is a new time this year. We are expecting 25 students but only 5 families are actually registered. First Reconciliation is January 8, 2022 at 11, and 1<sup>st</sup> Communion will be May 1, 2022 at 9:30. For the sacramental prep, catechists will be masked and 3 feet apart.

#### Youth Ministry (Julie read Elaine’s report for youth ministry)

##### Youth Group

- Fun night Friday September 17 from 5-10 PM for MS and HS
- Bi-monthly youth group gatherings on the first and third Sunday of the month begin in October.
- Parent meeting this Sunday at 6:30 PM at the church
- Homeless night out for high school students October 8-9 (7PM-7AM) We plan to invite neighboring parishes.

##### Catechists

- Catechetical Sunday is September 19
- For the Sake of God’s Children training tomorrow evening September 8 at church.

##### Summer service trip

Meeting this Sunday at 12 Noon to begin planning for the 2022 trip.

##### Diocese

- We are following safety guidelines from Dr. Lou De Angelo based on state guidance
- CYM primary contact (and friends) dinner this Friday at Holy Cross in Dover.
- Confirmation with Bishop Koenig is scheduled for Saturday May 28, 2022 at 11:00 AM

##### Parish Life

Sharon acknowledged the success of the garden party and Linda’s contributions. Linda commented that she is not comfortable planning for indoor activities given the current pandemic status, especially not inside with food and no masks. So not much is happening at this moment. She guessed at least 50 people came to the garden party, Sharon thought

it was more, perhaps 70 people based on plate counts. It was so good to be able to be together. Sharon also commented the garden is gorgeous.

### Social Concerns

Pat reported the steering team met and will be meeting again September 29. A question came up about funding for Emmanuel Dining Room because previously funds were used for parishioners to prepare a hot meal but this has not been done due to the pandemic. In a separate conversation, Sue Dagenais clarified that EDR had asked for the funds to be continued so the staff could have the resources to provide nutritious meals for persons in need. Pat also reported the approved budget had a different total for charitable giving than the group had previously seen, so we'll need to reconcile that difference.

### Liturgy

Steve reported that chairs and seating are the hot topics. There are enough seats every Sunday, with some empty seats, but people are nervous because of the Delta variant. So we're not adding more chairs right now. The fact of summer ending may require more seating. Adding a new Mass requires additional help of all kinds. If attendance increases greatly, we may need more chairs or we may need another Mass. But things are going well.

Fr. Greg commented to thank Steve and remind us, yes, we do double the help needed if we decide to add another Mass, and that includes the presider. He reminded us that the ideal is to have one community, one assembly, one Mass. Presiding is very hard on him physically. We would need to think about who's going to preside if a second Mass is added. People are saying they want another Mass for convenience, for their time schedule, but maybe that's not a good enough reason. Most people are accommodating to the one-Mass schedule; people are witnessing their faith by sacrificing to come to the one Mass.

Dick commented he appreciates what Steve and Fr. Greg have said, but he asked if there is any possibility of changing the time to a later time than 9:30. Steve commented the timing of CFP complicates that since it's at 10:45.

### Upcoming Pastoral Council Elections

Dick reviewed the process. The next 2 Sundays we will have a nomination drive for stewards and committee representatives. Stewards will be nominated and elected for 1 ½ year or 2 ½ year terms. Representatives from CFC and Liturgy will be for 1 ½ years and Social Concerns and Parish Life for 2 ½ years. So they've come up with a nomination form and a job description for stewards and standing committee reps. These were sent out ahead of time to Council.

Nominees should check just whichever one of the boxes applies.

Dick asked for Council members to all help with the nomination drives, to hang around

after Mass, and wear a name tag that identifies them as being on Council. Nominations are usually done by the individuals themselves, but sometimes others make nominations. Dick reviewed the form with Council and provided some explanations. He commented this is the first time we're having elections for standing committee representatives, so he put together a short description of each and what the by-laws say about each. There was not much description for social concerns because we had some difficulties coming up with a description previously. Sharon promised to get input from the other committee members and provide a better description for social concerns.

The nominations table will be set up in the gathering space for the next two Sundays.

Mary Beth wanted to congratulate the election committee for their work.

Dick mentioned that Joe McClory will be speaking on Sunday at Mass about his experience on Council. Mary Beth had done a great job speaking at Mass previously.

#### New Business:

Select replacement for Mary Beth Cote as Assistant Executive Officer

Mary Beth clarified she is resigning from Council for personal reasons, for a couple of years, and hopes to return later. This meeting is her last for now. Dick Schwer is taking her place as steward, but the by-laws don't say he would automatically also take the AEO spot.

Sharon asked if anyone would like to fill that role; Pat nominated Dick and he accepted the nomination. No one else wanted to be nominated. Dick was voted to fill the AEO role.

#### What's the Good News / What's the Buzz?

Joe Mc. commented he's been impressed with the attendance at Mass in spite of the Delta variant; he is very happy to see this.

Sharon asked all to comment:

Henry reported that the Tamil community is continuing to meet monthly.

Mary Beth said a thank you for everything.

Steve – just keep doing what we're doing.

Julie – congrats Dick, thank you Mary Beth, glad to see attendance.

Joe Quinn – no comment

Dick no comment

Anne – no comment

Pat – no comment

#### Closing Prayer

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Sormani