

Meeting Minutes of the Pastoral Council
Saint Francis Xavier Church
130 U.S. Route 133
Winthrop, Maine 04364
207-377-2911

A meeting of the Pastoral Council was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2006.

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|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Members Present: | | Members Absent: | |
| Christine Arsenault | Chair | Lori Gray | Church Life |
| Bill Webb | Vice-Chair | Kelly Duquette | Finance |
| Fr. Brian Blanchette | | Jenora Schultz | |
| Gary King | Family Life | Connie Godfrey | Secretary |
| Maryalice Crofton | Worship & Spirituality | Meredith Mulcahy | Youth Rep |
| | | Joshua Morissette | Youth Rep |
| | | Nancy Yocono | Faith Formation |

Parishioners & Guests: None

The meeting started at 6:30 with a prayer.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY: Maryalice

Sue Olmstead held several instructional sessions on the guitar throughout the summer. Several music ministers took advantage of these two-hour sessions. There were 5-12 people attending each session. Sue volunteered her time, as do all of the music ministers.

Currently, there are 14 music ministers who serve at various Masses.

Maryalice also presented a document entitled: "Winthrop Region Catholic Lay Leadership Development Program." She and a committee made up of Bob Bulger, Dave Mulcahy, and Jen Schultz put in a lot of time to organize this. She stated that this program would be open to all parishioners – to help catechists become better catechists or any other interested in leadership positions in the church. Maryalice was looking for feedback about this plan, so we will be reviewing it and discussing it at another meeting. (OPEN)

Maryalice noted that as they researched information to put this plan together, they found out that no other parish is doing something like this. Therefore, they did not find something in the diocese that they could model after.

Council Members should do a first reading and be ready to discuss next time.

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FAMILY LIFE: Gary

Gary showed the council the flyer for the Pot-Luck supper to be held on October 15 at St. Francis for both St. Francis and St. Leo's parishioners. He said that all of the food was set – rolls, desserts, and soda as well as decorations. There will also be a number of prizes and new games. It will begin at 5:00 P.M. on October 15.

FINANCE: Fr. Brian

Fr. Brian reviewed a report submitted by Kelly Duquette with us. He stated that the receipts are up over the last three years. However, the repairs have increased due to roof repair – which was not in the budget. The Men's club gave \$4900 toward the purchased of higher quality shingles. The total cost was about \$27,000.

The Men's Club also purchased 4 new air conditioning units...and these will heat as well as provide air conditioning.

Father said that we are fine on finances. For the Bishop's appeal we have topped \$55,000, putting us at the 1-2% of all parishes giving to this fund. Many other parishes did not meet their goal this year, and the fund is actually about \$400,000 short.

OLD BUSINESS:

CLUSTER REPORT:

Pastors in the area churches met two weeks ago. There is a committee that will meet on the first Monday in October – they are called the Implementation Team. This will be a difficult process, as many important decisions will be made.

The Bishop has not yet responded to any of the plans submitted by the cluster groups, and these were submitted in June.

One of the first things to be done is to find a new name for Cluster 13. They are seeking nominations for this. The top names will be put on a ballot – with a description of the saint's name used. All 8 churches involved will vote in their respective churches to select the name.

Students, who are attending the two Catholic schools in Augusta, will be working on selecting a new name for the school – which will become one school by next fall.

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The cluster report has already been 63% implemented – yet we must wait for formal approval from the Bishop. Not yet complete: Hallowell and ST. Francis.

We need two representatives from St. Francis for the implementation Team. Father is looking at the possibility of having Joe O'Donnell and Robin Knausenburger. He is not sure if Russ Cotnoir will want to continue as it was along process last year. (OPEN)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Christine Michaud will be working through Worship and Spirituality for the childcare during Masses. (CLOSED)

Father Brian said that we will not be paving the parking lot. The cost would be great and right now the Augusta area parishes have a lot to work out. (CLOSED)

NEXT MEETING: October 11 at 6:30

Closing prayer: 8:05 P.M.