

St. Eugene Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

Attendees: Rev. George Koeune, Carolyn Edwards, Maria Russo, Dan Bowery, Betty Urbaszewski-Gebhardt, Rita Kopf, Tony Mion, Jim Schmitt, Sal Sparacino, and Terri Swiderski. Angie Cisek was also present for the meeting due to her prior experience with the Refugee Settlement Project.

Absent: Erica Dillon, Kathleen Kon and Pat Wagner.

Father George opened the meeting at 7:00pm with a prayer.

Open Forum: None

Approval of Minutes: Dan Bowery made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 24, 2015 meeting, as distributed, and motion was seconded by Tony Mion.

Pastor's Report: Father George announced that the Parish Mission will be held on Monday, February 29, Tuesday, March 1, and Wednesday, March 2, 2016. Terri Swiderski provided the following names as speakers:

Monday -- Joe Scheidler – “Reflections of a Pro-Life Warrior”
Tuesday -- Anne Scheidler – “Shaping Pro-Life Families”
Wednesday -- Bill Beckman – “A Christian Preparation for End of Life”

Commission Reports: Reports were waived due to guests attending this meeting.

Old Business: The Knights of Columbus Rosary was held on January 22, 2016, and was beautiful, as always.

New Business:

- Father Bob Grib's Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2016, at 10:00am, with a reception in the Shaunessy Center afterwards. PPC members agreed to contribute to a large green plant in remembrance of Father Bob, and contributions will be collected by Rita Kopf (***please bring to the next meeting***). Amount is optional.
- Photos and autobiographies of PPC members should be turned in to Carolyn Edwards.
- Information was given to us regarding the refugee settlement program being handled by Catholic Charities by the following guest attendees:

Brother Joseph Schenk, OFM Conv.
Outreach Coordinator for Catholic Charities Refugee
Resettlement Program

Karen Daniels, Regional Director
Catholic Charities

Kate Ness
Paula Jo Belise
St. Mary's Parish in Riverside
Refugee Resettlement Ministry

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Brother Joseph and Karen Daniels told us what would be involved with sponsoring a refugee family, and Kate Ness and Paula Jo Belise shared experiences with their parish's Refugee Resettlement Ministry. Much discussion was held and many questions asked regarding St. Eugene's involvement, and it was decided by the PPC members to start out small and request parishioners to contribute hygiene and household items to be placed in "welcome kits" for these refugee families. These items would be sent over to the Des Plaines Catholic Charities office and stored there until used.

Next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be on Tuesday, February 23, 2016, at 7:00pm, in Room 110.

The meeting was closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Rita Kopf, PPC Secretary