

**St. Jude Pastoral Council**  
**Minutes of monthly meeting held at 7.00 pm**  
**On Thursday, April 8, 2010**

**Present:** John LaFond (Chairman), Sr. Betty Schumacher (Pastoral Assistant), Maureen Albi (Vice Chair), Molly Boll, Colleen McLaughlin, Art Mussman and Lauren Sing

**Apologies:** Genevieve Cahoon, Tom Cast, Jan Doran and Tim Duffy

**Opening**

**Prayer:** The meeting began at 7.05 pm with a prayer led by Colleen.

**Old business:**

- **Listening Session Progress:** Eight or nine listening sessions have taken place to date. More are planned and Sr. Betty is planning on more sign-up tables after mass in the coming weekends.
- **Selection Committee and Solicitation of New PC Members:** It was decided that John would address the congregation at masses this weekend (10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>), as well as contact nominations from last year to see if they are still interested in serving on the PC. Once nominations are received, John will contact the nominees to find out who is interested in finding out more about serving on the PC. A sub-committee consisting of Maureen, Sr. Betty, Molly and John will meet with candidates to explain what is required and the commitment they are being asked to make.
- **Greeters Program and “Catholics Come Home” Campaign:** Ruth is working hard to maintain the momentum of and interest in the Greeter’s program. This Saturday, a cheese and wine is planned for new St. Jude’s members after the 5pm mass.

To date, Sr. Betty was only aware of two people who have returned to the Church because of the “Catholics Come Home” campaign. One will possibly be interviewed for a TV presentation.

- **Collaborative Relationship between Opal House and St. Jude:** John has contacted Will and Diane Boegel about keeping St. Jude’s informed with bulletin inserts, etc. They will be attending mass this weekend and selling their farm grown coffee.

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**New business:**

- **Staffing Changes:** Deacon Carl's leaving has appeared abrupt to many. Sr. Betty explained that he had indicated earlier in the year, after taking a leave of absence, that he would be leaving his position. As the budget is being drafted without budgeting for his position in the new fiscal year, he decided to leave immediately. Sr. Betty has assumed Carl's liturgical duties and Jerry has assumed some of Carl's administrative responsibilities, e.g., with regard to payments to music ministers.

It was unanimously agreed upon that Art will draft a letter of appreciation to Carl.

- **Involvement of PC in the Staff Hiring Process:** At present, the PC is a resource to the pastor, who is at liberty to request assistance and/or participation in the staff hiring process.

It was agreed that we should continue to develop a better relationship between the staff and the PC.

- **Requested Meeting with Finance Council:** It was agreed to hold a joint meeting with the Finance Council on May 6th to hear and try to address problems facing St. Jude's finances, by brainstorming, etc. St. Jude's has always been a tithing parish, but it is becoming increasingly more difficult to maintain this practice. If necessary, we could hold additional informal meetings thereafter.
- **Pastoral Council Retreat in June:** Maureen discussed the possibility of having a retreat with new and old PC members before the start of the new fiscal year. St. Mary's on the Lake is a possible venue, as they have the facilities and could provide a facilitator as well. Maureen will investigate this possibility.

**Pulse of the Parish:**

- Volunteer Appreciation: The event is scheduled for June and will be open to all.

**Action Items:**

- John to address parishioners at all masses regarding PC nominations.
- Continue parish listening sessions.
- Art to draft a letter to Deacon Carl.

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**Action Items:**

- Maureen to look into holding a retreat at St. Mary's on the Lake.

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Invite Ned Laskowski to address PC Meeting in the new fiscal year. Membership of Sound Alliance will not be renewed. Social Justice Committee is meeting on May 15 to qualify their purpose.
- Invite Jeanne Goldbloom for update on St. Vincent de Paul in new year.
- Molly was given the go-ahead to plan a second ecumenical gathering, possibly for the week of Christian unity, January 24 and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**Closing Prayer:** The meeting closed with a prayer led by John at 8.40 pm.