

St. Mary's Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes September 13, 2007

Present: Terry Hawkes, Paul LaLiberte, Rose Palfy, Andrew Ross, Erin Beardwood, Roberta Chartrand, Giselle Jakobs, Richard Beaudette, OMI

Regrets: Dorothy Reimer

1. **Prayer, welcome of new member:** Paul LaLiberte
2. **Adoption of Agenda** – adopted as presented
3. **Adoption of Minutes** of August 23, 2007 – adopted as presented
4. **Old Business**
 - a. Hospitality group – contact people on our list – results
Ann Walsh
Brian and Ann McErlean
 - b. Table for Two
Erica & Gerry Chidiac
Cheryl Dussault
Chuck Robertson
Lisa & Rhonda
Celia? Joe?
 - c. Pastoral Council elections – we did not have an election as we had no nominations before the weekend – Paul LaLiberte submitted his name during the weekend.
5. **New Business**
 - a. Role of Council – input and discussion

We reflected on our role, in light of what has come out of Vatican II, the Code of Canon Law and Richard's reflections
 - b. Question: How can we increase volunteers and attendance?
We need to get to know one another at Sunday Mass
I come because I get something out of it, not because of obligation
We serve our internal needs, but rarely reach out to the broader community
We need to have a passion for people
Volunteering outside the church happens but few know much about it
We need to build community, and that happens often one person at a time
We need to take time to share with one another
"we are so busy" but what are we busy at?
Maybe we need to wear a button that says "I am Catholic, can we help?"
How do we do any of this without the obligation burden
Giving – stewardship, sharing gifts and talents
To motivate pastoral council – what do we need?
It is good to be with similar-minded people
"It is my parish" and I will make it what it needs to be
We need to put something into it, not just take out

Have something special on an occasional basis – eg, winter picnic at Shane Lake
Have a “needs assessment” – what are your needs, wants, dreams.

Homework for Council members:
What is your vision of a perfect Church?
What do I want to put into it?

- c. Chair for Council – chair meetings, meet w/team to prepare agenda
Erin, with Paul as vice-chair

Secretary – take minutes
Rose for Oct 18, and we will try to rotate

- 6. **Next Meetings:** October 18, November 29
- 7. **Assignments :** all reflect on two questions at end of 5.b
- 8. **Adjournment**