

St. Bernard and St. Henry Joint Pastoral Council Minutes for Meeting of Thursday, March 15, 2018  
in St. Henry Rectory Hall, Watertown, Wisconsin

**I. Meeting called to order** at 7:02 pm.

**II. Fr. Pat** led the Council in the **Prayer** for the Watertown Catholic Community

**III. Roll Call** Members present: Pastor Fr. Patrick Wendler and seminarian Francisco Ogbonna; St. Bernard members: Tracy Bargo, Irena Blenke-Krysiak, Kathy Reinhard, and trustee Al Reinhard; St. Henry members: Francine Butzine, Donna O'Brien, John Wanke, and trustee Jim Becker; Excused: St. Bernard members Kathy Chandler and James Romlein and St. Henry trustee John David; Absent: Hispanic community members Nancy Acosta and Ronald Castellion. **Irena shared a new email: [irenable@gmail.com](mailto:irenable@gmail.com)**

**IV.** Donna O'Brien acted as Chair in the place of Jim Romlein and led the **introduction of guests:** Dr. Mike Grajewski, Kathy Van Duser, and Dave Wetzal.

**V. Minutes** of the February 2018 meeting were unanimously approved. **Members were requested to regularly check their email for Council items and to assure the sender with a very short reply message that they were received.**

**VI. Agenda Review:** Everyone asked if they had the pack of items run off by Jim Romlein for members.

**VII. General Business and House Keeping**

**A.** Review, Harmonize, and Accept Diocesan Policies Relating to Pastoral Councils and Parish Trustees  
**Fr. Pat asked that all members carefully read over distributed papers relating to the above between now and the next meeting and to be prepared to bring up any questions they may have then.**

**VIII. Old Business**

**A. Greeting and Welcoming Proposal from Reboot Committee** – Dr. Mike Grajewski, Kathy Van Duser, – representing Reboot Cmte – and Dave Wetzal, representing St. Bernard ushers. A 4 page project implementation procedure was shared with the Council. Highlights as follows: Goal to have trained and cleared identified – (lanyards with name tags?) – parishioners acting as greeters and/or ushers at both churches to warmly welcome Mass attendees at all outer entrances to the churches and inner doors into the main body of the church. The expectation would be that these volunteers attempt to gradually know as many people by name as possible, to be quick to offer assistance with doors, finding seating, etc., to be present 15-20 minutes before Mass and stay after Mass perhaps 15 minutes after to engage Mass goers in pleasant conversation and maybe introduce parishioners to each other. The hope is to have about 50 people participating by the end of this year. A request was made for project expenses up to \$200.00. After discussion and some questions, the Council unanimously approved their proposal – with thanks for their ongoing efforts. Updates on progress will be given to the Council through the Worship Committee liaison, Irena Blenke-Krysiak.

**B. LifeTouch Church Directory proposal** Francine Butzine highlighted some of the information she had shared via email to Council members for a Watertown Catholic Community directory. If approved, it would contain two separate sections of photos of both St. Bernard and St. Henry parishioners and rosters of parish members. Photos would be of a professional quality; participants would be free to order or NOT from a variety of poses. However, all who had their photos taken would receive a free 8 by 10 inch photo and a free directory. The directory would be in a closed loop document – “twin wire bound” – similar to a spiral but stronger and not prone to unwinding. Parishioners would then be able to choose to have a photo of St. Bernard's Church as their cover or of St. Henry's. The ultimate goal, like the proposal in item A, is to have the Watertown Catholic Community parishioners know more of their fellow parishioners by name and feel comfortable greeting and engaging with them. The Council was interested in the proposal but Fr. Pat suggested Francine do some preliminary investigation first to insure that enough of the “younger” generation of parishioners would be willing to participate to make the work involved worth the effort.

## **IX Committee Reports**

These were previously shared on line. Highlights follow.

**A. Worship** – Fr. Pat shared that now all parishioners have access to an extremely rich resource for Catholic information, study, devotion, entertainment 24/7 in both English and Spanish through the site **Watertown Catholic.Formed.org**

**B. Religious Formation** – Kathy Reinhard shared the Sunday evening series “Who Am I to Judge” ends March 18. Tuesday evening gatherings will continue through early May. Some will be carpooling to Madison for the St. Therese diocesan-sponsored lecture March 20<sup>th</sup> and the Holy Week Chrism Mass on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Tickets for the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Matthew Kelly conference will be sold at a reduced price the second weekend of April and, if enough interest, a bus may be contracted for the Milwaukee event. A possible bus “pilgrimage” to LaCrosse's Our Lady of Guadalupe Church is also being explored for the summer.

**C. Schools** – Donna O'Brien is now receiving the monthly newsletter sent to school families and she shared some of the informative contents it contains. She will maintain a contact with Principal Adrienne Van Norman on a regular basis as well.

**D. Parish Life** – Tracy Bargo shared that the St. Patrick's Day supper this Saturday at St. Bernard's is forecasted to serve about 250 diners. All are invited to attend. Food is being served between 4 and 7.

**E. Stewardship** – John Wanke is working with Lyn Zimmermann to share with the WCC only the tasks/ministries that are in immediate need for more volunteer personnel. Fr. Pat shared that he is working with Lyn and hopes to have those requests ready to present in April.

**F. Human Concerns** – No liaison at present. Jim Romlein hopes to address this at next meeting.

**G. Vocations** – Jim Romlein shared in the written report that posters announcing a “Discernment of Spirits Silent Retreat” for young women will be placed on vocations bulletin boards at both parishes.

## **X. New Business**

**A. Request for approving a Majowka Day** for the WCC on Friday, May 4. Jim Romlein has already received permission to have this at the Watertown Conservation Club from 10 am to 10 pm. Majowka is a Polish tradition, held in early May. Jim envisions this event for us as a no cost, fun day with Polish food being offered, a rosary pilgrimage, a muzzle loader demonstration by Fr. Miro, trap shooting, fishing, music, dancing, bonfire, singing and an evening benediction. The Council enthusiastically approved. Irena volunteered to work with Jim on this event.

**B and C. Work Sessions 1 and 2** were moved to Old Business for the next meeting at the suggestion of Fr. Wendler.

## **XI. Miscellaneous**

**A.** Fr. Pat and Kathy Reinhard reported that Amber Stangler has already received \$300 in stipends: \$200 from the WCC and \$100 from St. Bernard's Council of Catholic Women. (See February minutes.)

**B.** It was proposed that in the future it would be helpful for guests presenting a proposal for the Council to be given the guideline that they should limit their presentation to approximately 10 minutes. Council members all agreed.

**C.** Fr. Pat recommended that it be a Council goal to finish meetings by 8:30 pm at the latest. Again, all present agreed.

**XII. Adjournment** at 8:29 pm. Father Pat gave a blessing as final prayer.

**Next meeting: Thursday, April 19, 2018, 7:00 pm, St. Henry Rectory Hall**  
Secretary, Francine Butzine

