

Minutes: Sacred Heart Pastoral Council - March 18, 2018

Members present: Mike Bradley, Fr. Steve Dublinski, Bill Engels, Lorraine Farrand, Aurora Horstkamp, Kevin Owens (Chair), Eric Patera, Charlotte Snekvik. Also present: Mary Sutherland, Parish Secretary.

The meeting opened with a prayer. The minutes from last month were approved.

Old Business:

Apostolic Faith Church: It is not likely that they will use our church to meet in. They have a strong tradition around the world of having religious education at 9 a.m. and a service at 11 a.m. They will contact other churches, and **Fr. Steve** heard from the Colfax Grange that they are interested in hosting them. Also, it may be over a year before they have to move out of their current space at the former Encounter Ministries. It was a good hospitality outreach for us.

Safety Inspection Report: Parishioner **Ryan Scharnhorst**, assistant chief operations officer of the Pullman Fire Department, came and did a safety inspection of the parish. He found a number of areas that should be addressed:

1. Classroom windows are too small to serve as secondary exits. The windows would have to be enlarged and lowered. The window wells would have to be lowered and have exits.
2. Ideally sprinklers would be installed in classrooms.
3. The last two classrooms have no windows. **Ryan** will find out if a door to a classroom with a secondary exit would suffice. The nursery also has no windows.
4. Doors to the hallway with windows should have a shade to cover window in emergency.
5. Emergency lighting in the hallways needs to be installed.
6. Carbon monoxide detectors need to be installed in all areas including parish house. There are smoke detectors, but they need to be maintained.
7. Classrooms doors need to be replaced with fire doors.
8. All teachers, staff, etc., should view the "Run, Hide, Fight" material from Homeland Security.
9. The double-door at the bottom of the stairs (by the main church entrance) leading to the hallway needs to be replaced with a fire door. This is especially important to keep a fire from shooting up the stairwell.
10. The door in the social hall that is marked as an emergency exit (glass door on east side) needs a crash bar.
11. A safety plan needs to be developed. Another fire department employee will help with that. It would include who calls 911, how are teachers notified, where do students go after exiting building, etc.
12. Installation of a key-box for the fire department so they can get into the building without breaking in. Important.

Bill Engels moved to recommend installation of the key-box for \$300. The members approved. Numbers 4, 6, 8, and 11 can be accomplished with little expense. They also recommended working on the most pressing projects, such as replacing the double doors (9) and installing emergency lighting. The current audio/visual project in the church includes getting a camera to feed live video to the social hall. It is possible to buy a camera that can be used to monitor the church, send alarms to police or fire departments, set off an alarm in the church, etc., for a reasonable price. That could allow us to leave the church unlocked during the day again.

Status of Property near Cemetery: The property near the cemetery that had seemed to be a good possibility for building a new church and possible Catholic Charities apartments is definitely not available. Nearly every vacant property within the city limits is scheduled to be built upon. (*However, if you know of any available, suitable land, please let Fr. Steve know!*) Those few lots that are available are either very difficult to build on, in a flood zone or not zoned for churches. Zoning can be changed, but then the parish would be responsible for roads, lighting, etc. All this means that we may need to take a harder look at remaining in our current central location and completely rebuilding. There are many possibilities. (See the parish website: Welcome/Potential New Church Plans/Exploratory Committee Slide Show Presentation February 2016, for a couple of ideas.) Parking could be built underneath as in many of the new apartment buildings on college hill.

New Business:

Maintenance Report: Don & Charlotte Snekvik are replacing the kitchen microwave, installing a larger one lower down, with ducting and a strong fan. The ductwork will vent into the storage area above the carport and on into the big vent on top. A parishioner is paying for the entire project. They have converted all the switches for outdoor lights with sensors to flat panels so they can't be inadvertently turned off. The kitchen stove can't be replaced; the opening is too narrow for any stove made now. They will get it working better. Members voted them a huge thank you!

Next meeting: Sunday, April 15, 9:45 am.

Submitted by **Mary Sutherland**.