

**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date: Jan 17, 2013**

**Place: Parish Activities Center**

Fr. Colarusso	P	Dino Cuscuna	P	Dennis Ebert	-	Carmen O'Rourke	P
Deacon Sumner	P	Janice DeHart	P	Joanne Fitzpatrick	P	Freddy Santosuosso	P
Erica Bukowski	-	Rosemarie Delacy	P	Roc O'Connell	P		

P = Present at meeting

Meeting commenced at 7:43 PM with an opening prayer by Janice DeHart.

**1. Review of previous meeting minutes**

Minutes from the Nov. 2012 meeting were unanimously accepted as written.  
(Note: No meeting was held in December)

**2. Review/Edit proposed agenda/assign timekeeper**

Proposed meeting agenda was accepted and Roc volunteered to act as timekeeper.

**3. Pastor Update:**

- The Archdiocese announced the first phase of Parish Collaboratives. Reading is not part of this first round, although we are working with St. Agnes on facilities planning (see update below).
- Building Committee
  - Exterior plan (driveway and parking lot reconfiguration) has been approved by the Town of Reading.
  - Five proposals for church interior work (ceiling, lighting, etc.) are being reviewed by the Building Committee with interviews with candidate firms to follow.
- Financial Update
  - Sustained improvements in the operating account allowed \$20,000 from the Parish Faire to be deposited into the long-term savings account on the recommendation of the Finance Council.
  - Winter heating bills are always a concern that can eat into savings.
  - Successful Capital Campaign is on-going.
  - A monetary donation was made to the Police Fund. 10 Comedy Night tickets are available to anyone that is interested.
- Fr. Colarusso will be traveling, at no charge to the Parish, to the Holy Land in April. Coverage priests have been identified.

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**4. Parishioner Comments**

- It was proposed and agreed to that time be allocated at each meeting for parishioners who would like to attend and share their comments. A PPC member may represent a parishioner's comments but it was agreed that such comments would not be anonymous. *As stated in the PPC By-Laws, "Meetings of the PPC are generally open to all parishioners."*

**5. New Business**

- Evangelization
  - **Faith Formation Committee Update (Roc)**
    - Committee has been discussing and reviewing ideas for Year of Faith since late summer. It was hoped that the Archdiocese's Faith Essential course could be used with break-out sessions for discussion but topics are arcane and not of general interest to the average parishioner. Committee is previewing the "Catholicism" series (Fr. Robert Barron) for possible viewing by parish groups and then discussed with the aid of a study guide.
  - **PPC proposals for Year of Faith activities**
    - Communal recitation of Rosary during the month of May
    - Book Club
    - Recommended Book List published on website and in weekly bulletin
    - Movie Night
    - Speaker series featuring the lives of Saints
    - Course/seminar on Apologetics
    - Monthly Catholic Traditions activity/lesson for children held during "coffee hour"
    - Weekly "Bring your family to Mass" on a rotating basis by Religious Education grade.
    - Identify activities to target college / post-high school age group.
    - Social Activities
      - Pasta Supper, Pancake Breakfast, Wine-Lovers Night, Marriage Vows Renewal

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- Year of Faith suggestions from a parishioner:
  - Get the 'word out' about all the resources available for the "Year of Faith" that are online.
  - Offer our Parish Center for one of the "Catholic Essentials" meeting places (so that our parishioners can attend).
  - Offer some kind of 'book club' meeting to read/discuss a book (or books) pertinent for this Year of Faith.
  - list of books published on our website (and in the bulletin) to let parishioner's know where to find good resources for this "Year of Faith".
  - Offer a "Movie Night" with a faith-related video and maybe discussion time afterwards.
- **Reading Catholic Community Facilities (Roc)**
  - Representatives from St. Agnes and St. Athanasius recently toured both sites to take inventory of facilities and discuss future uses and to plan any upgrades. A summary report is forthcoming on synergies and how to share facilities in the future.
- **PPC Charter /By-Laws**
  - Deferred until February 2013 meeting.
    - **Action Item: Distribute current By-Laws and reference documents to PPC members. Owner: Dino Due: 22 January 2013**
- **Develop Agenda for next meeting**
  - By-Laws and Goals

**6. Closing Prayer – Fr. Colarusso**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM**

**Next Meeting:** February 21, 2013  
Adoration: 7:00-7:30 PM  
Meeting: 7:30 –9:00 PM  
Opening prayer: Carmen O'Rourke

**Respectively submitted, Dino F. Cuscuna**