

Saint John the Baptist – Evangelization & Stewardship Commission

Meeting Agenda/Minutes

Date:	December 12, 2017	Time:	5:30 Mass; 6:05 Dinner; 6:35-7:40 Commission Mtg; 7:45-8:45 PLC Mtg.
Chair/ Vice Chair	Linda Harmon Charlie Nickoloff	Location:	St. John's
Recorder:	Brandon Delbow	PLC Rep:	Neil Steffl

Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present
Brandon D.		Linda H.	A	Kate A.			
Kathryn H.		Jane H.		Jim S.			
Mark H.		Charlie N.		Neil S.			
Staff Representative:	Deacon Gary S.						
Guest(s) & Purpose:	Larry VandenPlas – PLC Chair						

Parish Mission: GO. MAKE. TEACH.

Opening Prayer

- 1) Deacon Gary opened the meeting in prayer.

Administrative Activities

- 1) E&S November meeting minutes: Mark H. motioned to approve, Jim S. seconded. No discussion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- 2) PLC Minutes: November meeting minutes were individually reviewed. No discussion.
- 3) Brainstorming List:
 - a. Discussion: E&S members expressed approval of Linda's work in organizing thoughts from last month's meeting into one comprehensive list. Members declared it is likely as organized as it could possibly be, given the large amount of information therein.
 - b. Call for proposed amendments:
 - i. Added "Evangelization and Stewardship Commission" to top of document.
 - ii. Clarification was made about rosary suggestion.
 - c. E&S reexamined the purpose of the brainstorming. It was explained that the list is the commission's answer to the institution of the new parish mission.
 - i. It was called into question whether it would be more effective to hone in on only a couple items, rather than sending an expansive list, "a wide bucket." Members surmised that it is still better to send all ideas, as E&S would like direction from leadership, especially since many items require resources
 - d. Questions were brought to Larry V., PLC, calling for comparison to other commissions. He explained that each commission is distinct, functions differently, and varies so much.
 - e. Members walked through next steps and determined that Deacon Gary will bring a copy of the approved brainstorming list to staff and Neil S. will bring a copy to the PLC meeting.
 - i. Larry V. shared that it would take a couple of weeks for leadership to pick through list and to respond.
 - f. Mark H. motioned to approve the Brainstorming List with two amendments and to send a copy to the PLC meeting. Neil S. seconded. No further discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Evangelization

- 1) Return Series: Jessica B. is looking for brainstorming and input from E&S. "Evangelization and Stewardship Commission December 11, 2017 Report to PLC" handout was distributed.

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- a. Neil S. reported that the intent is to keep the current ALPHA group together and invite them to the four-part “Return Series” program, followed by “Symbolon.” He expressed that these are self-contained units and prime opportunities for keeping ALPHA attendees, past and present, connected.
 - i. Some background about the program was shared, and it was noted that the program is meant to better equip the evangelizers at SJB, which fits the new mission of empowering parishioners to own their duty of “going, making, and teaching.”
 - ii. Members responded that these programs will circle back to ALPHA nicely and is a good gap between ALPHA.
- b. Kathryn H. motioned to send E&S approval of the “Return Series” at SJB to the PLC. Charlie N. seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Deacon Gary approved with emphasis.

2) 50th Anniversary Update

- a. Mark H. reported that, to his knowledge, no meeting has taken place. No communication was received, so members queried about whether preparations were still in the works.
 - i. Discussion: E&S expressed interest in Mark serving on a 50th Anniversary committee. Larry V. took note of the questions and shared that Father Skluzacek is still looking for a chair for the steering committee.

Stewardship Committee

1) New Guidebook:

- a. Discussion: Members clarified that the guidebook is the same as the directory and noted that some members and parishioners still have not seen the guidebook. E&S was reminded that leadership is driven to release financial information in a timely way but also cautioned against publishing reports without also showing what was done with the finances.
 - i. Larry V. announced that Father Skluzacek is looking to the E&S Commission for preparing the other parts for publishing, such as sacrament statistics and other parish accomplishments.

2) Stewardship Coffee – St. John the Baptist is hosting on Feb. 3, 2018

- a. Discussion: Hosts and hostesses are wanted as welcoming faces for visitors. Members expressed that this would be a good opportunity for networking and meeting Evangelization goals.
 - i. Questions about the “Bishop’s Document” referenced in the email invitation were raised. Members remained unsure about what the document is or how to access it but felt assured that it would be used to guide the presentation.

ACTION: Let Deacon know ASAP if you are available to volunteer for this event.

- ii. Deacon Gary still working with Bonnie H. in the detailed planning of the event and will coordinate volunteers later. Jim S. and Neil S. made known their availability.

Ministry Reports

- 1) The listing of ministries under E&S in 2018 Guidebook was noted.
- 2) ALPHA: Neil S. reported with excitement about a community from Cameroon coming together and addressed questions about the size of groups, concluding that the 8-10 member group size is typical, although down from past years.
- 3) Charismata, Intercessory Prayer, Living the Divine Will:
 - a. Charismata – Deacon Gary shared that the charismatic service would take place the third Friday this month and that numbers are down a little bit. It was also noted that starting in

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2018, services would start at 7:30pm instead of 8pm with the hopes to appeal to a broader audience. Further, during Lent, the plan is to push the start time back to 8pm, as to not conflict with Stations of the Cross.

- i. Members discussed possibilities for ramping up advertisement and communication and wondered whether low attendance is a reflection of awareness, understanding, or availability.
 - b. Intercessory Prayer – Deacon Gary reminded E&S that this prayer takes place after two masses once per month and that leadership is in the early, early stages of planning training sessions for that. He described the unique format of this ministry, as a pastoral arm of Fr. Skluzacek, which requires discerned involvement, not recruitment.
 - c. Living the Divine Will – Deacon Gary shared that very few people know about this ministry and described that meetings involve decade of the rosary, reflection on writings, and petitions for everything to be brought back to the will of the Father, submission. He encouraged E&S not to get wrapped up in numbers or attendance because the ministry simply needs to happen.
 - i. Discussion: Members showed interest in using technology to share WHAT these ministries are and named Facebook, Twitter, and Hospitality screens as possibilities. E&S acknowledged the open Hospitality Coordinator position as an opportunity to accomplish some of this.
- 4) Legacy: Mark H. reported about a Director of Development position and described that said position would serve both the parish and school for two years, with the hopes of permanency. He shared aspects of the job description and announced that this position could be filled and start as soon as March.
- 5) New Parishioner Welcoming: no update.
- 6) Weekly Prayer: Jane H. reported that she has been invited to lead, chair and form, a committee to vet visitors to SJB raising money for foreign missions. She expressed her interest to accept the challenge but acknowledged the conflicts with maintaining her position with the E&S Commission.
 - a. Jane H. announced her resignation from the “Weekly Prayer” and from the E&S Commission. Members thanked Jane for her service in instituting both the prayer section of Father’s weekly email and the new committee.

ACTION: Prayerfully consider taking over the “Weekly Prayer” ministry.

- i. E&S decided that Jane will handle the prayer section up to next month and that details for continuing the initiative will be parsed out during the January meeting.
 - b. Discussion: Members questioned whether this could be handed over to staff people but ultimately decided “No,” this should be left in the empowered hands of parishioners without the stamp of clergy.

Committee Reports

- 1) Tabled until January.

New Business

- 1) Mark and Kathryn H. shared about their experience with “giving kiosks” at St. Joe’s in Lino Lakes.

Staff Report

- 1) Deacon Gary reminded E&S about the two newly available parish positions: one as part-time hospitality coordinator and one as part-time rectory housekeeper and cook.

Closing Prayer

- 1) Charlie N. closed the meeting in prayer.

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Ministries: New Parishioner Welcome, Legacy, ALPHA, Prayer Section in Father Skluzacek's weekly e-mail

Committees: Nominating, By-Laws, Hospitality after Mass

Future Meeting Dates: 12/12; 1/23/18; 2/20; 3/20; 4/17; 5/15; 6/5