

Saint John the Baptist – Stewardship & Evangelization Commission

May 18, 2016 Meeting MINUTES

Date:	May 18, 2016	Time:	6:30 pm (Mass at 5:30, Dinner at 6:00)
Chair/ Vice Chair	Larry V. Linda H.	Location:	St John's
Recorder:	Marie C. (Backup: Brandon D.)	PLC Rep:	Gloria B.

Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present
Brandon D.	x	Dan K.	x	Deacon Gary	x		
Engracia H.		Neil S.	x	Linda H.	x		
Marie C.	x	Gloria B.	x	Larry V.	x		
Staff Representative:	Deacon Gary Schneider						
Guest(s) & Purpose:	Sue R, PLC						

Opening Prayer by Deacon Gary

Administrative Activities

- Approved Minutes of April 20, 2016 unanimously
- PLC Report was reviewed prior to the meeting. There was some discussion on the Pastor's report regarding the appointment of eight staff to his Leadership team. There was discussion about Amazing Parish ideas, Forming Intentional Disciples, and Rebuilt. As well as the goal setting and direction our commission should receive from PLC and/or the pastor.
- Selection of a PLC back-up - Gloria will reach out to Engracia. Larry going to PLC on behalf S&E on 5-20-2016
- New Member Recruiting – Three people rotating off commission. Linda and Larry reported that there were still no nominations or applications from parishioners to join the S&E. Linda shared a chart of the committees that report up to the S&E as well as the other commissions. There was discussion of the purpose, function, and future of the S&E. Linda H, Larry V, and Dcn. Schneider will plan a meeting with Fr. Skluzacek to discuss the future of the S&E. Questions include:
 - 'What are we recruiting to?'
 - Does S&E need to be restructured into something that breeds life?
 - Are we an active vs. passive approach (people that do vs. people that think/advise)?

Stewardship Activities

- Update on Commission Requests submitted to PLC was done by Linda.
- Prayer Initiative - Update (Neil & Brandon) – tabled for next meeting.
- Business Administrator's Report - the report was reviewed. There was discussion of the communication of things that should likely go through the S&E that aren't currently, e.g. Legacy Wall, Close the Gap, and how to invite people to become active or assist with Fall Fest. Note: Legacy Committee – There is an event on June 7 to educate parishioners about Legacy giving.
- Give by Kiosks – reviewed previously and comments sent to Mark D.

Evangelization Activities

- Mass Introductions – Update was provided by Linda. The Worship Commission (WC) responded on this request in writing and the WC response was reviewed. The overall answer was no, enough is being done to welcome people or greet them at mass. However, there were some ideas provided at the end of the letter from the WC that suggested other ideas of welcoming such as telling people where to park, advertising in local papers, etc. The S&E discussed ideas regarding welcoming from Amazing Parish and

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Rebuilt. There was additional discussion on ways other parishes try to welcome and greet each Sunday. The comment was made that struggling churches sometimes are doing the best things to be welcoming.

- Father Skluzacek sent S&E two ideas for evangelization. Discussion covered the following questions:
 - What is likely to happen if/when we move forward on those ideas?
 - Would it be better for Fr. to run the ideas past his staff leadership team first? Is buy-in by staff important to get first?
- Formation Day Idea - Reaching out to those absent – Neil S updated us on the ideas Fr. S., Linda, and he had on how to reach out to people not attending church. The objective, challenges, opportunities, action plan and resources to reach out to people were presented.
- Reaching out in General – Sometimes it seems that letters from the parish are always asking for money such as the “Close the Gap” mailing. Could this ask for money be combined with an opportunity to communicate with entire parishioner base with an evangelizing message?
- Amazing Parish Ideas – Linda brought forward some key messages from Amazing Parish for the group. For example, this quote from Chris Stefanik from his publication, Real Life Catholic, “The unchurched person usually doesn’t feel welcome at Church. It is up to us to help him or her lower their defenses so the word of God can pierce their heart. If we provide a boring and unwelcome weekend experience, the unchurched believe the Church has nothing relevant to say to them. Worst, they come to believe God is irrelevant.”

New Business

- Between now and next meeting:
 - Meeting (Linda, Larry and Dcn. Gary) with Fr. Skluzacek to discuss what change needs to happen for our commission
 - Think about what the “new” S&E would look like
- **Deacon G. led the Closing Prayer**

Future Meeting Dates: Meetings: 6/8 Kick-off Event 8/24