

Saint John the Baptist – Evangelization & Stewardship Commission

Meeting Agenda/Minutes

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Date: | May 16, 2017 | Time: | 6:30 pm (Dinner 5:30; Rosary 6:00) |
| Chair/ Vice Chair | Linda Harmon Neil S. | Location: | St. John's |
| Recorder: | Brandon D. | PLC Rep: | Linda H. (back-up Neil S.) |

| Member/Attendee | Present | Member/Attendee | Present | Member/Attendee | Present | Member/Attendee | Present |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| Brandon D. | X | Jane H. | X | Mark H. | X | Deacon Gary | X |
| Neil S. | X | Linda Harmon | X | Charlie N. | | | |
| Open | | Jim S. | X | Tamara N. | | | |
| Staff Representative: | Deacon Gary Schneider | | | | | | |
| Guest(s) & Purpose: | Steve Blum (PLC), Kathryn Haidet (Discerning membership) | | | | | | |

VISION: Deepen and strengthen the faith of parishioners while maintaining an adequate worship space, offering opportunities for faith formation, providing a just wage for staff, with a balanced parish budget.

Opening Prayer and Introductions

- 1) Deacon Gary opened the E&S Commission meeting in prayer.
- 2) Linda H. reviewed with members the procedures for getting items onto each meeting's agenda.
- 3) E&S engaged in a round of introductions, and welcomed guest Kathryn H.

Administrative Activities

- 1) Meeting minutes from April 2017 were reviewed prior to the meeting. Mark H. motioned to approve Neil S. seconded the motion. April 2017 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
- 2) It was noted that E&S Minutes included in PLC Minutes from April were incorrect and corrections have been requested.
- 3) PBA report: E&S highlighted the update about the new columbarium.
- 4) Linda H. reminded E&S members to submit 2017-2018 Officer Nominations. It was noted that a PLC Representative is of particular need, as someone other than the commission chair must attend monthly PLC meetings.
- 5) Mission Statement: Fall rollout planned by parish. No discussion.

Stewardship Updates

- 1) Jim S. commented on thoughts and next steps in E&S Commission's initiative around SJB financial reporting format changes, highlighting three items that could be pursued further.
 - a. Sacramental Reporting: Financial Commission (FC) likes the idea of sharing data for sacraments and other parish statistics. Next steps were discussed.
 - b. Parish Debt: Members discussed that it may "excite" parishioners now to see monthly updates on parish debt, with the decreasing balance as a possible incentive to give.
 - c. Timing: It was suggested that FC publish the annual report, as an insert in the bulletin, as soon as it is ready versus waiting to include it in the annual membership directory.
- 2) OSMG annual renewal.
 - a. Deacon Gary reported that Mark Dittman is asking E&S to help with OSMG planning. A plan has been outlined, and Mark is now looking for people to help.
 - b. **ACTION: E&S Commission members are to communicate their interest to Deacon Gary as soon as possible.**
- 3) Legacy committee: Mark H. provided an update on behalf of the Legacy Committee with regards to implementing a comprehensive Legacy Program.
 - a. Upcoming Legacy Committee meetings will include discussions about marketing and opportunities to develop plans to meet with select parishioners.

Saint John the Baptist – Evangelization & Stewardship Commission

Meeting Agenda/Minutes

- b. Questions were raised about meeting with certain parishioners. Mark H. responded that the idea is to build a group of parishioners who have already included St. John the Baptist (SJB) in their legacy plans. This group will meet with parishioners who have not yet made plans for giving to SJB. Members expressed approval over this type of approach, as it makes for more personal and proactive visits.
- c. Tentative September plans are to meet with E&S Commission to review the proposed plans, and tentative October plans are to meet with Finance Commission to solidify proposed plans.

Evangelization Updates

- 1) Neil S. reported on the status of the “reaching out to those absent” initiative, with special attention on next steps.
 - a. Neil has a meeting scheduled with Jessica Balzarini about how to make the initiative happen.
 - b. Neil discussed goal of short and concise phone scripts to overcome any potential negativity.
 - c. Neil called for E&S member feedback in how to best engage with people over the phone and posed the question, “After an introduction, what would your next two sentences be?” There was a substantial discussion about possible talking points and avenues for best engaging the inactive over the phone.
 - i. While the wording is still up in the air, members settled on making sure the inactive are prayed for, feel appreciated, and have had something offered to them. It was expressed multiple times that everyone has at least one thing that could be prayed for.
 - ii. Other suggestions included: letting the inactive know that SJB is here to support, asking if there are ways SJB can help, “planting a seed” to remember for future times of need, and calling to double-check or correct contact information.
 - iii. Members proposed, too, that at some point it would be best practice to be direct by asking how the parish is or is not meeting the needs of those inactive/absent.
- 2) Neil outlined the next steps for the initiative, which include: meeting with Jessica B., gather contact information, putting together a team, training, and ultimately rollout.

Staff Report

- 1) Leadership Team Update: Deacon Gary reported that the primary focus lately has been the rollout details of the new mission statement.
- 2) Deacon Gary provided a quick recap of his experiences at the Amazing Parish conference. Of particular note were rooting all parish activity in prayer and the view of Sunday as the one time per week which a majority of parishioners can be engaged.

Other

- 1) Linda H. thanked E&S Commission volunteers for the success of hosting weekend hospitality.
- 2) E&S celebrated the recent Weekly Prayer goal achievements and especially thanked Jane H. for the accomplishment. Members affirmed the good work as well as the length, topics, location, and relevant saint of the new prayer section.
- 3) Linda listed E&S Proposed Goals for 2017-2018, which included: New Parishioner Befriender idea, adapting the Sunday Experience for those “searching,” a Sunday Experience feedback from, Welcome Desk evangelists, and successful launch of the new Legacy program.

New Business

- 1) For the June meeting, E&S will gather recaps and updates from the ministries that report to E&S.
- 2) Hospitality: Questions were raised about the Hospitality after Mass Committee, as it relates to E&S. Members recognized opportunities to evangelize more effectively during hospitality, ways to assist Patty, connecting hospitality to initiatives of engaging new parishioners and prospective parishioners, and of improving Sunday experience.

Saint John the Baptist – Evangelization & Stewardship Commission

Meeting Agenda/Minutes

- a. **Action Step:** Deacon Gary will take these questions to leadership with hopes of clarifying the role of E&S as the guiding commission for Hospitality.

Closing Prayer

Ministries: New Parishioner Welcome, Legacy, ALPHA

Committees: Evangelization, Stewardship, Nominating, By-Laws, Hospitality after Mass

Future Meeting Dates: 6/6