

St John the Apostle Catholic Community

Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved.....Forever!



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL HELD IN THE LIBRARY ON THURSDAY 10 JULY 2014.

Present: Sabina Van Rooy (Chair), Fr Gerard McCormick msc, Ted Kildea, Fr Alfin Buarlele msc, Henri Clementine, Robert Breen (minutes).

Agenda Item 1 - Opening and Welcome.

It being NAIDOC week Sabina opened the meeting by acknowledging the original owners of the land in which we live.

Agenda Item 2 – Apologies.

Apologies were received from Victoria Scarano, Carl Madsen, Marian England and Kathy Teys.

Minutes of Previous Meeting. Moved Sabina, seconded Ted, that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Agenda Item 3 - Correspondence.

Out: Nil.

In: Nil.

Agenda Item 4 – Article for Reflection.

Reminding members of the decision at the last meeting to return to this document and consider it at this meeting including the unread part “Planning, Not Implementation”, Sabina led the meeting in considering the various aspects of the section.

Henri offered suggestions about harnessing members and opined the need for the Council to be open and listening to the community. Fr Gerard reminded members that the activities of the Council had been defined last year and reviewed last month and there was therefore no need to further consider ways to do things.

This led Ted to describe the activities of other local churches expressing admiration for the effectiveness of programs they have. Responding Fr Gerard pointed out that St John’s has a heavy workload of activities with staff and parishioners working very hard. He counseled against negative comments on the Church’s activities as these can adversely affect the morale of those involved.

Sabina reviewed the Council's mission statement (yellow card) stating it is important to keep it handy and refer to it regularly to refresh members' memories.

Agenda Item 5 – Prayer.

Sabina led the meeting for a period of reflection reading from St Matthew's gospel and inviting members to ponder the passage. On completion of the period Fr Gerard opined that prayer is an important part of the Council's meetings as it helped settle things down during times of friction.

Agenda Item 6 – Business.

Completion of the Church Project. Sabina reported that the Completion of Church Steering Committee had met the previous week and formally tabled a "Brief" for the PPC setting down various aspects of the Committee's operation. She described members and the talents each brought to the Committee. Fr Gerard stated that vessels had been ordered from a local silversmith with the hope that this would result in a standardized style. Henri opined there is a need to have a formal method of implementing Steering Committee decisions. The Committee will meet with Rev Dr Steven Hackett on Saturday 16 August. Members noted this is an action resulted from PPC planning and decisions.

Pastoral Care Review. Fr Gerard explained the aim of this review and raised the question as to how it should be undertaken. It was proposed it start by listing all that is presently being done and identifying that which is not. Sabina suggested and the meeting agreed that the people involved in pastoral care be identified and invited to a conversation with tea on a Sunday afternoon, she and Henri will plan and arrange this afternoon on a date to be advised – typically late August, early September.

Christian Initiation Review. Fr Gerard stated that this activity has become "bogged down"; the whole program – baptism, confirmation, first Communion and RCIA – needs to be looked at.

Parrish Connect. Fr Gerard advised of the need to check how this program is going.

Agenda Item 7 – New Business

Focus on Evangelisation. As many Council members were absent it was decided to leave this matter to the next meeting for consideration.

Closure and Next Meeting.

In closing the meeting, Sabina noted that Fr Gerard's birthday was on the following day and wished him well. She praised him for his achievements in the parish particularly the creation and publication of the Pastoral Plan.

Sabina led members in the recital of the silver card text "The Word", Jules Chevalier, 1900.

The **next meeting** of the Council is scheduled for **Thursday 14 August commencing at 7.30 PM.**

Robert Breen
Minutes Secretary.

12 July 2014