

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 13 AUGUST 2015.

Present: Sabina Van Rooy (Chair), Fr Gerard McCormick msc, Marian England, Henri Clementine, Carl Madsen, Fr Paul Browne, Agnes Phan, Helen Kennedy, Robert Breen (minutes).

Agenda Item 1 - Opening and Welcome.

Sabina opened the meeting and welcomed those attending.

Agenda Item 2 – Apologies.

Nil...

Agenda Item 3 – Correspondence

Out: Nil.

In: Letter from Claire and Bert Broekhuysen dated 1 June 2015 regarding the project to “Welcome Christ Child into Christmas”. The matter was discussed in depth with the Council opinion being one of general support for the concept. The idea is considered ambitious and good and needs to be tested with a trial project. It was agreed that Bert should be invited to form a group of about six to conduct a trial activity to evaluate the concept, to see whether it “has legs”, and can gain momentum that would suggest it is worthy of consideration for broader implementation. A letter will be drafted to Bert advising him of the Council’s views and support and suggesting he form the trial group, the letter to be signed jointly by Fr Gerard and Sabina as PPC Chair.

Henri tabled an email from Pamela Hafu inviting attendance at an event at Parliament House to explore Pope Francis’ encyclical titled *Laudato Si’, On Care for Our Common Home*.

Agenda Item 4 - Minutes

The minutes of the May meeting were reviewed. Moved Henri Clementine, seconded Marian England, that the minutes be accepted as a true record of that meeting. CARRIED.

4a. Business arising from the minutes

Hospitality. Marian advised that the program is “off and running”, there are some gaps in the roster but it is generally OK.

Social Justice – chapter. The Council is happy with the status of this activity and considers it “done and dusted”.

Sanctuary Project. The project will be carried out in two stages, rework of the sanctuary area first and then the introduction of the baptismal font. This will allow the completed sanctuary area to be viewed and assessed before final decisions are made regarding the font. The tentative starting date for the first stage is 21 September, a loan of \$80,000 has been approved but there is some uncertainty about the builder’s quote. It is hoped to be able to communicate the details of the project to parish members in the next week, The project is expected to take about two weeks to complete during which masses will “work around” the disruption.

Children’s Liturgy. Fr Gerard explained the arrangement of designating the third Sunday of the month as the “Children’s’ Mass”. He has a small group comprised of Helen Druitt, a representative of the “downstairs liturgy” people, and the Religious Education Coordinator (REC) from the school to put together a policy document for children’s liturgy. He envisages a brainstorming event where the question of how best to get children to understand and be involved in the mass. Carl offered to be involved in the group, Fr Gerard accepted. In response to Sabina’s query as to whether the child protection documents are up to date, Marian advised they all are.

AGENDA

Agenda Item 5 – Prayer

Fr Paul led the prayer section of the meeting by reading a passage used at the recent retreat and invited members to silently reflect on the passage. He suggested prayer on leading and serving and “the grace to wash each other’s feet”.

Agenda Item 6 – Business.

Response to Twilight Retreat

Members were in general agreement that the retreat had been well worthwhile and thanked Fr Paul for his facilitation. Sabina wondered what action Council should take as result of the event. Fr Paul proposed Council consider the paper used at the retreat and prioritise the items in each section of the listing. This was done and the completed documents were passed to Fr Paul for collation.

Ministry Review Groups

After some discussion on the why, what, when and who of the review of ministry groups, Council decided:

- The review will take place on Sunday 20 September, 2 – 4 PM;
- Each group to be represented by at least one person – “a representative body and a body of representatives”;

- The purpose will be explained and they will report – “they hear us and we hear what they are doing”;
- Parish Plan to be reviewed – other aspects will arise from that;
- Parishioners to be given notice of the event by announcements from the pulpit – Council members to speak at each of the masses on the 12/13 September weekend.

Other Matters

Refugee Committee Treasurer’s Report. Marian tabled a financial report from the Refugee Committee – see attachment.

Laudato Si’ Sessions. Sabina commented that the *Laudato Si’, On Care for Our Common Home* sessions were well attended which was pleasing.

Closure and Next Meeting.

In closing the meeting, 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 10 September 2015 commencing at 7.30 PM.**

Robert Breen
Minutes Secretary.

24 August 2015

Attachment: St John the Apostle Refugee Resettlement Committee Treasurer’s Report for the Financial Year 2014/2015.


St. John the Apostle Refugee Resettlement Committee

Treasurer's Report for the Financial year 2014/2015

We started the year with a balance of \$2658.18 and closed with a balance of 1525.07. Our only real income was \$1980.95 from the parish bucket collection in October 2014 and major expenditure was in the form of donations for Christmas gift vouchers and scholarships awarded through the Canberra Refugee Support Agency. (Full details may be seen on the accompanying spreadsheet print-out.

Our financial position at the end of July is reasonable (\$2206 available in our cheque account), but without a further injection of funds, we cannot afford to be particularly generous with gift vouchers or donations to other organisations at the end of the year.

Janet Almond (Treasurer)

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janet Almond". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.