

Area Catholic Comm. Minutes from July 31, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
held at St. James Catholic Church, Randall,

Chair: Bill Kuesel

Attendees: Fr. Ben K and Fr. Jimmy J

St. Stanislaus, Sobieski:	Joyce Borash, Michael Retka;
Holy Family, Belle Prairie:	Darrell Welle
LOLO, Little Falls:	Joe LaForce
Sacred Heart, Flensburg:	Jim Carlson, Carol Merten
St. James, Randall:	Gail Johnson, Bill Kuesel
St. Mary's, Little Falls:	Brigid Fitzgerald, Jon Radermacher
MOL School:	Mary Sowada, Asst. Principal

Absent: Jessica Brigman, Kaitlin Pohland
Jon Radermacher volunteered to fill in the grid in the absence of Kaitlin Pohland.

Opening Prayer led by Fr. Jimmy

Minutes from Last meeting:

Review of Minutes from last meeting: The last meeting was on July 10th not July 9th. Other corrections to be made to the information provided for the 6 PARISH INFORMATION GRID will be made on the grid by Kaitlin Pohland. **However, parish staff will be asked to compile a listing of Masses, with times, that includes weekends, weekdays, holydays as well as adoration and reconciliation. This would be placed into a separate document to be attached to the minutes.**

With corrections the minutes were approved.

Agenda: The agenda for tonight should reflect the date of July 31 not July 30.

Suggestion made that a yearly calendar be constructed which notes all major events in all six parishes, festivals, dinners, breakfasts, etc. Brigid Fitzgerald will check with staff for these events to be included.

Discussion of the next two items from the Data Collection Grid:

SERVICE: How do we live out the gospel call to be the hands and feet of Christ by advocating for those in need? What actions of service and charity are visible from our community?

Many actions are occurring throughout the 6 parishes, including these :participation in Oasis Share a Meal, eucharist to the homebound, New pathways while it is running, seasonal giving trees, sponsorship through UnBound, Christmas baskets, participation in Faith not Fear through convent, quilt bingo, food shelf, support of seminarians, dinners to raise funds for emergency declarations, parish buildings used for housing on as needed basis, collaboration with local groups to raise funds, Day of Caring, Helping Hands stipends, Christmas carolers, parish nurses, Friends in Faith, NODA, jail ministry, Mission groups, Meals on Wheels, vocations

camp, Spanish Mass and meal. school's sponsor child, work with St. Otto's, prayer blankets, birthright baby shower and support.

LEADERSHIP: Do we have effective leadership from our priests, lay leaders and councils/committees? Is our vision, common focus clear to all?

Priests: ACC members have consensus that the priests are leading us well.

Priests spoke to current staffing at each parish. Little Falls Tri parishes compensate 3 secretaries, shared youth minister, maintenance staff for church and also for school, DREs, volunteer coordinator. There was a Pastoral Associate position which is being reevaluated and determination made of a job description and duties in light of ACC discussions.

School board reps are involved in the school.

The Randall/Sobieski/Flensburg parishes work with many volunteer hours with volunteer/ paid positions hourly as needed for faith formation director, custodian, snow/lawn care. 1 Office staff handles financials and sacramental recordings for all 3. There is no office in Flensburg and the building is opened to renters in need as determined by Fr. Jimmy/parish.

COMMUNICATION: Inserts with pictures and contact information of ACC committee will be put into bulletins in two weeks. Agree it is a good idea to have ACC members speak at Masses to let parishioners know what we are and what we are doing. Jim Carlson noted that there is great definitions of what this process is - in the information we received prior to the training.

To keep us all on the same page when speaking to parishes, Michael Retka will put together information to be used by the ACC members when speaking to the parishes.

Name for this group. Comment that calling this group ACC - is a bit dry. After discussion, suggestion made that the group come up with 4-5 names which could be presented to the parishes for final selection. I.e. - Mississippi Saints, Living Waters. Idea is to be expansive in describing this group. Prior to submitting names, we want to educate and inform parishioners of what it is we are doing, lay the ground work. Keep thinking of possible names.

Fr. Ben spoke with Brenda Kresky about our process, in response to our concern last meeting that we are taking a lot of time to go through the grid items. She thinks we are on schedule. Diocese wants a big plan by end of year. We will need to gather and review financials which are getting done by mid- end August. Need to look at budgets. Request was made that a breakdown of the students at MOL from each parish be determined. Mary Sowada will get this.

Next meeting: Lourdes: Wednesday, August 21st. 7 pm at OLOL at JPIL center

Stewardship and evangelism next items we will discuss.