|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| P1C1T1#y1 | **Meeting Minutes**  **Pax Christi Monthly Council Meeting** | **COMMUNITY COUNCIL** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Council:** | **Community Council** | |
| **Meeting Date:** | **October 17, 2023** | |
| **Minutes Prepared By:** | **Debbie Hemann** | |
|  | | |
| **Attendees:** | **Michelle Fox (Staff)** | **Fr. William Murtaugh** |
| **Phyllis Olson** | **Bruce Koehn** |
| **Dave Putrich (Chair)** | **Lekha Pauly** |
| **Tom Payne** | **Dan Ward** |
| **Anita Lang** | **Bill Kozik** |
| **Marc Nosal** | **Liz Mach** |
| **Becky Jensen** | **Patti Christensen** |
| **Beth Neubrech** |  |
| **Absent:** |  |  |
| **Guest:** |  |  |

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Dave Putrich

**Prayer:** Dave Putrich

1. **Thank you to Phyllis Olson**

Dave Putrich

Dave thanked Phyllis for her two-year term as the Community Council Chair. Phyllis was instrumental in

getting the very popular and well attended Lenten Small Groups program put together.

1. **Hospitality Focus:**

Dave Putrich

Highlights from the September 19th all council joint meetings

* Large amounts of feedback were received.
* The Electric Vibe in the room was felt by all.
* “All Together” we had amazing energy.
* Most are looking forward to more all-council joint meetings.

Introducing “**Welcome All as Christ**” **Reimaging Parish Hospitality** Book by John T. Kyler

Asking all councils to read this book and to discuss at the January 2024 all council joint meeting. Deacon Charles Bobertz was mentioned in the Acknowledgments section in the back of this book. Charles knows Kyler and helps to have formed and shaped him as a pastoral minister, educator, and editor. Deacon Charles will be at the January joint meeting and will be talking about the book and about the hospitality of Pax Christi.

It was asked by Fr. Bill, what is the best way to fit reading this book into the busy lifestyles of the council members? Dave Putrich suggested that we read only a few chapters at a time, taking on small bits, and be prepared to talk about those chapters.

While reading this book, think about what the Vision of Pax Christi for hospitality is. This will require a shift in mindset and behaviors. Each council should meet and discuss the book and be prepared to review in January.

**ACTION**: Each council creates one or two goals, how they tie into the book’s message, and perhaps a draft of a vision statement. **Please send your thoughts about a vision to Dave and Michelle.** This doesn’t have to be a new goal – how do we practice the spirit of hospitality?

May will be the second joint meeting session.

1. **LLDE 2 Proposals for Change:**

Becky Jensen, Chair of LLDE

1. **Change the length of the term to 2 years with the option of staying on for a 3rd year.**
2. **Currently, councils take the month of July off from council meetings. LLDE recommends a two-month break during July and August.** LLDE understands that this won’t work for every council as there are Financial Reports due, etc.

First Proposal: (questions asked)

Q: How many people that were discerning for a council position preferred the two-year term over the three-year term?

A: Becky said three for sure that she can think of. Maura has the spreadsheet with discerning information on it for a more accurate account.

Q: For those that hold a council position right now, how do you feel about the shorter two-year term?

A: The first year is taken up by trying to figure out how things are done and the learning phase of the council members and possesses. It was also said that the second year is better and more enjoyable, but maybe the third year would be even better.

Creating a “Pilot” to try the two-year term, as an alternative for those that are on the fence while discerning.

* Don’t openly advertise this Pilot, keep in your pocket to only be used for exceptions.
* Guidelines would need to be put in place this pilot doesn’t mess with the roles of the councils, i.e., too many people on one council all leaving at the same time.
* Would have to have strict tracking of the people in the Pilot and keeping information on the success rate(s).

The passing of this Pilot Program would require a change to the Pax Christi Lay Leadership Guide book. All are in understanding of this change.

A vote was taken and passed by all Community Council Members. The motion was made by Patti Christensen to approve proposal number **1.** **Implementing a Pilot Program to Change length of the term to 2-years with the option of staying on for a 3rd year.** The motion was seconded by Liz Mach.

Second Proposal: (questions asked)

Q: If we are having 3 Joint All Council meetings per year, doesn’t that cut us down to 8 meetings already? That’s 3 more missed meetings.

A: Correct that would leave us with the following meetings:

* August, October, November, December, February, March, April, June = 8
* 3 Joint All Council – September, January, and May = 3

Q: If we were to take July and August off (which doesn’t work for all councils) That is a long time between the individual council meetings.

A: Correct: June is the year-end celebration, off July and August and an All-Joint meeting in September, that is 4 months essentially away from meetings.

Q: What about having individual council retreats prior to the new year so council members can get to know each other a little bit better.

A: Okay, but when?

Q: Has there ever been an evaluation of the councils with feedback at the end of the year?

A: Not that anyone was aware of.

* Having an evaluation would give a good understanding of the council members’ feelings and would show/what they think about the individual councils.
* May shed some light on the term of commitment and the number of members of each council.

No decisions were made on Proposal #2: Table for another time.

**4. Fr. Bill Murtaugh’s Remarks:**

Fr. Bill Murtaugh

Moving to this new style of hospitality will be a hard adjustment to this visioning group. It is a change of mindset and won’t happen overnight. The model we are using should be work being done by the separate councils and then brought up to the Community Council. We know that isn’t how it is happening. There has been almost a 50% decrease in parishioners from before COVID.

* How do we recover from that?
* How do we make church important again?
* How do we invite people in?

1. **Michelle Fox, Parish Directors Remarks:**

Michelle Fox

Homecoming Weekend (Oct. 8th) was a huge success, thank you to all those that helped! 500 people were served the hotdog and beans meal. Ran out of food at 500. Last weekend (Oct. 14 and 15th) the All-Ministry Fair was held after all the masses. Good turnout and lots of feedback and potential volunteers. It worked great to have the tables in the Narthex so people kind of had to look at it.

Staff Changes: Positions are open and posted on the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis website: [https://careers.archspm.org/job/communications-director/](https://careers.archspm.org/job/communications-director/?fbclid=IwAR3Q4wlcUmX23XzqoOpbOfthtW0pSCr0Xw4JxDUE4OsR8r0VALuLwYESTwg) and <https://careers.archspm.org/job/care-and-support-coordinator/>. If you know of anyone that may be interested, please contact Michelle.

Kyle Finken, Care and Support Coordinator (part-time)

Andrea Ward, Communications Director (full-time)

All Staff Off-Site Event: November 8th (10:00 am to 4:00 pm)

Mandatory Attendance

At Bearpath Golf & Country Club

50% of staff have been at Pax Christi for under 4 years.

Bringing back a Welcoming event:

For New Members – From July 1, 2023, forward

Pizza with the Padre

More details to come.

# Moved to adjourn at 6:20 pm to get Community Council Photo taken.

# Next Meeting: November 14, 2023

# Prayer for November 14th: Patti Christensen