



St Paul of the Cross - MINUTES of July 8th, 2019 Board Meeting

Attending:

Sandra Arnould
Pat Brennan
Fr. Pat Brennan
Roger Frank
Cindy LaFond
Sue Macdonald
Jim McKelvey
Faith Offman
Fr. Phil Paxton
Bob Salter
Greg Soule
Toby Tabaczynski

Regrets:

Kari Klinski
John Bodary

1. **Call to Order** – Toby Tabaczynski called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. He welcomed all and read the overview from the Policy Handbook to remind members of why they are here.

2. **Approval of Minutes** - Jim McKelvey moved to accept the substance of the minutes from the June 22nd board meeting. Pat Brennan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Sandra will make corrections where necessary.

3. **Charism Exercise** – Lead by Faith Offman. Native American contemplative prayer, followed by 10 minute video of Fr. Don Senior's opening remarks at Chapter Day of Reflection. Fr. Don spoke of call to contemplation within the Passionist charism. Thus "retreats" as places of quiet to experience God. Seeing with eyes and minds and souls wide open; with eyes of the heart. Seeing through the lens of the Cross – core reality of Christian faith.

Faith asked ""What question would you like to ask God?" She led board in a visio divina exercise. All took 20 min. to reflectively walk around outside and take a picture of what spoke to them. Optional sharing at tables of possible connection between pictures and questions to God. Exercise served as a discernment tool in helping board members select committees they would like to serve on for next term.

4. **BOD ethics; signing of statements**- Jim McKelvey passed out revised Confidentiality Agreements which everyone signed and submitted. Absent members will receive agreements to sign. All members received revised Policy Handbooks.

5. **New Board Committee Assignments** – Board members signed up for 1st and 2nd choices of committees to serve on. (Note: Policy Governance is an ad hoc committee that will meet through June 2020; after that, only as needed.) Toby will summarize board choices on a spreadsheet. Toby and team will review and make suggestions if changes are needed; to be done in the next two weeks. Each committee, once decided, will determine their own meeting times.

6. **Fr. Phil Farewell** – Toby lead group in a farewell to Fr. Phil who has been assigned to Holy Family Community in Birmingham, leaving in September. (Fr. Enno Dango, C.P. has been assigned to St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center.) Board members expressed appreciation for Fr. Phil's strong leadership in the Detroit community and his dedication to causes of peace and justice. Fr. Pat cited Fr. Phil's gift of preaching which has affected retreatants and those who come to St. Paul's. Toby presented Fr. Phil with gifts of craft beers, nuts and anchovies. All are invited to an open house/ farewell to be held on September 15 at St. Paul's.

7. Roundtable-

*Chuck Anway sent a reminder to all to turn in unsold golf outing tickets. Fundraising for the event is currently at approximately \$32,000. Goal is \$50,000.

*Sandra Arnould suggested that Committee Charters become an attachment section of the handbook. Also mentioned the budget was approved by the Provincial Council in May

*Toby reminded everyone to visit Passionist.org. and view the board portal. In the future, emails to members may provide links to documents in the portal.

*Fr. Pat spoke enthusiastically about the retreat theme for this year: " Who Do You Say I Am?"

8. **Closing Prayer: adjournment-** Fr. Pat closed the meeting with a prayer. Adjournment was at 8:30

Submitted by: Cindy La Fond