**Minutes of St. Mary Parish Pastoral Council August 8th, 2016**

**Present Members:** Father Tim Sheedy, Mark Sovers, June Maier, Alan Wieskamp, Mark Petersen, Mary Knight, Adam Haluska, Deacon Dave, Deacon Chris Weber, Nancy Upmeyer, Patty Erusha and David Ritchie.

**6:41 pm -**President Mark Sovers called the meeting to order.

**6:43 pm** -The group read the Mission Statement together.

**6:46 pm -** Father Sheedyled us in prayer and reflection using the new Open Prayer for Parish meetings format.

**6:54 pm -** Motion was made to approve the **Minutes from July meeting and passed** with the exception of a section at “7:20 PM” and the “Work Session” date being wrong**.** Motion was made to approve the agenda for the **August 8th meeting and passed.** Handouts of the updated Pastoral Council Liaison and Pastoral Council members were handed out.

**6:57 pm - Work Session began:** overview of the four topics:

1. Action Item Revision of the Council By-laws

a. Change “elected” to “discerned”. (Page 2 -Section3 -Vacancy)

b. Eliminate Bullet 1 of Section 2 – Discernment (Page 3)

2. Discussion on handicapped parking spaces- Need to add

3. What does an “Active and Visible” Pastoral Council look like

4. Update and discussion of the dismantling of the old church

a. Hearing and respecting the multi-generation voice.

1. Adding an open forum session to Business meetings

**7:00 pm –**Patty Erusha started off the evening by updating everyone on the upcoming “Christ our Life” conference. Of note, Patty and Julie Agne both have some extra rooms reserved if anyone needs a place Saturday night.

**7:15 pm –** Nancy Upmeyer discussed a concern over inadequate numbers of Handicap parking spots at St. Mary’s. A parishioner approached her and would like more spots up by the entrance to the Parish Hall. Nancy will serve as a committee head on this and work with Alan Wieskamp to come up with a good number of additional spots, a report will be given to the Finance council and the Parish Council will discuss and vote on a # of spots in the future.

**7:40 pm –** Council voted on two outstanding issues from the July Business meeting:

a. Change “elected” to “discerned”. (Page 2 -Section3 -Vacancy)

b. Eliminate Bullet 1 of Section 2 – Discernment (Page 3)

Both items were approved by the council.

**7:45 pm –** Alan Wieskamp updated the council on the outcome of the Town Hall meeting about dismantling the old church and advised that an additional Town Hall meeting will be scheduled to allow more parish members to voice their concerns. There was a good turnout at the town hall, about 50-60 and about 50/50% for and against.

**8:00 pm –** Pastoral Council discussed adding an open forum to the Business meetings for those who want to submit an agenda item for review at the first 15 minutes of the meeting. Mark Sovers will draw up a guideline to the process.

**8:10 pm –** Council discussed what an open and visible Pastoral Council looks like. PC members will be getting our picture taken at the next meeting in September. We will be signing up for after mass to take questions and meet parishioners. June Maiers will work on getting some things to go around our neck that say “Pastoral Council Member”. This will invite a good discussion and get a conversation going about name and concerns.

**8:15 pm –** Council discussed first several pages of “Jubilee of Mercy” handout and received our assignment from Fr. Tim to read the next few pages and we will discuss in the September Business meeting. Book, “A church on the move” will be next.

**8:30 pm-** Following the new prayer format, the closing prayer was said by Father Sheedy and the group.

The next meeting will be **Tuesday September 6th at 6:30pm** possibly in the Parish Hall. **Pictures will be taken of the PC members!!!!**

**8:02 pm-** The meeting was adjourned