

Minutes of the Good Shepherd Pastoral Council Retreat

June 15, 2024

Prepared by - Ken Obst

Members present - Fr. Mike Foley, Michael Bell, Jason Drake, Barb Edwards, Tom Fackender, Kathy Gomer, Stephen Kalifeh, Bob McGuire, Ken Obst, Stephen Quintero, Nancy Sanders, Joe Santos, and Jason Vickers.

Welcome, Overview, Introductions, and Prayer - The meeting was opened with Ken welcoming all to the meeting, especially the new members. thanking them for their openness to serve. Ken invited all to introduce themselves, including their name, a little bit about their family and length of time in the Parish. All then joined together in the Eucharistic Revival Prayer.

Scripture and Reflection - Ken then shared 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 in which Paul highlights that there are different kinds of gifts, forms of service, and different workings, but each is given for some benefit. All were invited, if they were comfortable, to share an important moment in their spiritual journey.

Nature and Role of the Council - Ken then shared a bit about the purpose, size, relationship, and operation of the Council as well as its relationship with other Parish leadership groups. He indicated some of the responsibilities of the members and discussed the Shared Wisdom Process.

Status of 2023-2024 Teams and Recommendations - There was a brief overview of the current Goal Teams (GT) with recommendations from the teams supporting GT 1 (Marriage Enrichment) and GT 2 (Facilitating Service Opportunities) to “Graduate” and for GT 3 (Facilitating Service Opportunities) to continue. These recommendations were accepted.

Parish Assessment - An overview of the method for identifying new goals was presented by Ken. That method was to use a modified version of the examination of Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT). The modification was to focus, almost exclusively, on any perceived weaknesses in the Parish and any situations external to the Parish that create opportunities to further our mission. The search for these weaknesses and opportunities was targeted on these five elements of our Parish: Worship, Discipleship, Evangelization, Fellowship/Community, and Ministry.

There was very active participation in offering inputs of areas of weakness/opportunities. Michael was kind and brave enough to capture these inputs on the computer. The ability to see all the inputs that he captured together on the screen was very helpful. It allowed all present to view them and discuss general areas that would be candidates for goal teams.

New Goal Teams - With relative ease, the group was able to discern two new goals. These goals will focus on **Discipleship** and **Ministry Awareness**. To facilitate the next steps, it was important to determine which members would serve on each of the teams. This was partially accomplished in the meeting.

Future Actions - Ken then presented the remaining actions that will be required for the Council to be fully prepared to move forward for the 2024-2025 council year. Ken will work to refine the list of members on each team and find a temporary leader for each goal team.

Each goal team should perform the following actions:

1. Discern the group leader and communications coordinator,
2. Clarify the new goal team name and goal statement,
3. Create the draft objectives, and
4. Prepare to present recommendations for the goal team name, goal statement, and list of objectives at the Council meeting in September Council meeting.

During the September Council meeting, the Council should approve or suggest modifications to the inputs from each goal team and discern the new leadership for the Council.

Next Meeting - Scheduled for September 10th at 7:00 p.m. Volunteers for the opening prayer and faith sharing will be requested.

Closing - After Michael offered a closing prayer, the meeting was adjourned.