

SANTA ROSA DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD

MINUTES, Meeting of November 14, 2009, St Eugene Cathedral

Present: Mike Wall (Chair, St Eugene, SN), Mel Amato (St John Baptist H, SN), Lou Bull (Treasurer, Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha, H/DN), Pat Bull (Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha, H/DN), Brian Connolly (Holy Spirit, SN), Kevin Connolly (Resurrection, SN), Steve Ericson (St Helena, N), Yvette Fallandy (Ex. Sec., St Eugene), Len Marabella (St Rose, SN),

Invocation and Amenities. Mike Wall led the assembled in the *Prayer for the Diocese*, and welcomed Guests Mel Amato, Brian Connolly, Kevin Connolly and Len Marabella. Yvette Fallandy requested prayers for Tony Sacramento (St Elizabeth Seton, SS) whose illness precluded his presence as guest. Mike Wall announced with apologies his need to leave the meeting on an urgent family matter. Yvette F. was designated Chair *pro tempore*.

Agenda* approved as proposed.

Minutes* approved (formally) with correction of Fr Loren Allen's (Pastor, St Bernard, Eureka) name.

Reports.

Lou & Pat Bull, Humboldt/Del Norte Deanery.

- Sr Pat Carson, Dir., Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha Mission, continues to recover from severe back surgery.
- Jim & Linda Barrett (St Joseph Arcata, H/DN) have resigned from their Parish Council and hence as DPC Reps to H/DN.
- There remain three Parishes active in H/DN: Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha., Sacred Heart, St Bernard.

Steve Ericson, Napa Deanery.

- No Report.

Mel Amato, Brian Connolly, Kevin Connolly, Len Marabella, SN.

- Kevin Connolly reported that Resurrection is developing a model for the Synthesis of the Anglo/Hispanic Communities that could serve as a model for other Parishes.
- The four Reps reported that SN at its October 24th meeting, considered five issues it deems important to the future of the Diocese.
 - Ongoing dissemination of the Lay Pastoral Director Project.
 - Diocesan Communications.
 - Strategic Planning for Diocese and Parishes.
 - Diocesan Financial Stability.
 - Synthesis among Diocesan Ethnic Groups.

Lou Bull, Ex. Bd Treasurer.

- DPC account is \$2500.00.
- Reimbursement to Yvette Fallandy and Bob Leet is *in medias res*.

Yvette Fallandy, Executive Secretary.

- An article on the DPC will appear in the winter issue of the *North Coast Catholic*.
- A condolence letter sent to the John Richardson's widow (J. R. was a founding DPC Executive Board member, Ex. Board Representative to the Diocesan Finance Committee, and a SS Rep.)
- Fr Thos. Devereaux, Pastor, St Elizabeth Seton, designated Tony Sacramento visitor to the present Executive Board Meeting (Please see above.).

Old Business.

Executive Board Membership, Yvette Fallandy for Mike Wall, Chair, Ex. Bd & SN.

- SN has elected Mel Amato to succeed Bob Leet as its Rep. to the Ex. Bd. The Ex. Bd warmly welcomed Mel.
- SN recommends to the Ex. Bd that Len Marabella be designated 'DPC Exrcutove Board Projects Coordinator'. The Ex Bd accepted by unanimous consensus SN's recommendation.
 - The Ex. Bd accepted by consensus Steve Ericson's proposal that the Coordinator's responsibilities include keeping the Ex. Bd and Deaneries abreast of Projects' progress.
 - The Ex. Bd accepted by consensus Mel Amato's proposal that the Coordinator's responsibilities include recruiting talent from all Deaneries and of utilizing the DPC Website.

Lay Pastoral Director Project, Len Marabella.

- Len has presented the LPDP to the Napa (8 present) and Sonoma South (15 present) Priests Deaneries. The Presentation was generally well received, sometimes with enthusiasm. One question was raised about cost and another whether the laity would accept a LPD.
- Looks forward to presentations at Mendocino/Lake and Sonoma North Priests Deaneries.
- Announced that Mel Amato had procured the gift of PowerPoint Projector from an anonymous St John the Baptist H Parishioner. The Executive Board Members expressed their hearty gratitude to all concerned and especially the donor. The Executive Secretary is charged with so informing Fr. Walt Rogina, Pastor, St John the Baptist, with a copy to Mel Amato.

Communications, Mel Amato, Brian Connolly, Kevin Connolly, Len Marabella.

- Kevin Connolly, as DPC Rep. on the Diocesan Communications Committee, appointed by the Bishop, reported on a Diocesan Communication Office (Dr Deirdre Frontczak, Director) project to replace *North Coast Catholic* with Faith Magazine, a national publication (Lansing, MI) that can include local news. As a monthly distributed electronically or electronic/paper, it would provide timely Diocesan and national news, wider readership (*NCC* is quarterly), an economy of labor, and depending how it were distributed, fiscal economy. Kevin provided a printed estimate of *Faith Magazine* costs*. The *Faith Magazine* project will be presented to the next Diocesan Budget Committee Meeting in preparation for its presentation to the Diocesan Finance Committee. Upon extensive discussion the Executive Board endorsed by unanimous consensus the Faith Magazine Project.
- Brian Connolly, Len Marabella and Mel Amato presented the SN Agenda for a DPC Communications Task Force:
 - Create of a diocesan-wide E-mail Communications List.
 - Establish supporting technology for Internet based communications.
 - Implement an expanded version for *North Coast Catholic* (Please see above.).
 - Establish a DPC pilot as a model for two-way communications.
 - Create a "Geek Squad" to enable parish communications (Pilot program for 5 Parishes).
 - Promote teleconferencing capability.
- Brian, Len, and Mel noted that the Bishop has expressed interest in the DPC's participation in Diocesan Communications by appointing Kevin Connolly to the Diocesan Communication Committee (Please see above.).
- M (Amato), S (Ericson), P (Unan.) "The DPC Ex. Bd endorses the six goals of the SND Communications Task Force, and charges Len Marabella, DPC Ex. Bd Project Coordinator, to assist SND in recruiting participation in the Project among the other Deaneries.

Vocations.

- Lou and Pat Bull reported that Fr Tom Diaz, Diocesan Director of Vocations, prefers not to engage at this time in any DPC initiative concerning Diocesan Vocations.
- 'Vocations' tabled by unanimous consensus.

New Business.

Plenary Session, March 20, 2010, St Mary of the Angels, Ukiah. The Ex. Bd agreed by unanimous consensus upon:

- Theme: "*Energizing the Laity Through the Diocesan Pastoral Council!*"
- Invite Bishop Walsh to address his evaluation of the DPC and his aspirations for its future, and to make available in writing his status report on the 'Status of the Diocese'.
- Guest 'Motivational' Speaker in order of preference:
 - Mr Fred Furth, Northern CA businessman and Philanthropist (Recommended by Mel Amato who will inquire.).
 - Fr George Andersen, Eastern Rite Church, Willits; Church Historian (Phil Minor, St Bernard, H/DN, Yvette Fallandy)
 - Fr Eric Freed, Internationalist, Modern Church History (Pat Bull, Yvette Fallandy).
- Inter-deanery group meetings in AM.
- Deanery meetings in PM.
- Program to include an element of fun.
- Continued planning: Committee-of-the-Whole; Sub-committee: Mel Amato, Yvette Fallandy (Coordinator), Bob Leet, Mike Wall. Planning to be completed for Ex. Bd Meeting, January 9, 2010.

Strategic Planning, Mel Amato.

- On behalf of SN Mel continues to make inquiries around the country for models of diocesan and parish Strategic Planning.
- Any proposal will probably entail a financial commitment.
- Mel envisions an eventual Task Force and PowerPoint Presentation on the LPDP model.
- Kevin Connolly volunteered that Sr Judy of Richmond (East Bay) has enjoyed success in Strategic Planning and might be a local source.
- The Executive Board endorses by unanimous consensus SND's pursuit under Mel Amato's initiative, of the Strategic Planning Project.

Diocesan Financial Stability. Tabled by unanimous consensus.

Advancing Unity in a Multi-ethnic Church. Tabled by unanimous consensus.

Next Meeting: Saturday, January 9, 2010, St Eugene Cathedral Parish Life Center.

Benediction: Mel Amato.

Adjournment: 11:45.

* Copy attached to Approved Minutes.