

Faith Formation Committee
June 17, 2010

Present: Dan Coveyou, Tim Lajoice, Theresa France, Kelly Moran, Mike Litzner

The meeting was held at the Catholic Center and was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

Dan Coveyou indicated that the FFC should have a chairperson (not himself) conducting the meetings. After a short discussion, Kelly Moran nominated Tim Lajoice as chairperson of the FFC effective immediately. Theresa France supported, and by voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Tim previously took the minutes. Kelly agreed to take the minutes of this meeting.

An opening prayer was offered by Tim.

The discussion continued briefly about Dan's functions, FFC meetings, the FFC being a subcommittee of the Pastoral Council, and the agenda preparation.

Meetings according to the By-Laws are to be held once every two months (6 x year). We concluded that this is the minimum and the FFC could meet more often, if we so desired.

The agenda will be sent by Dan via e-mail and in advance of meetings. The FFC can collaborate through the month with Dan to place items on the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Catholic Summer Camp

- August 9 - 12 (3 nights) at Hiawatha Youth Camp / Ages 7 - 16.
- Dan asked the FFC to promote the camp. The cost is \$85 if registered by June 30th plus \$10 bussing. K of C is subsidizing this cost, and the parish has funds available, being given to those families with the greatest need first. As coordinator, Dan said applying the funds is at his discretion.
- Theresa indicated there are funds in the Youth Ministry as well.
- Bus will be driven by David Crisp.
- There is a need for female chaperones. Suggestions were offered.

B. See the See

- No new developments

C. VIRTUS Training

- Pat Fenlon will conduct a training session by August 9th.
- Names of possible new teachers was provided to Dan.

D. Teen Events

1. Car Show parking
 - organized by Theresa France
 - Kelly mentioned the new owners of the building next door have moved in and that someone should get their approval to park cars on their property
2. Camping Trip
 - overnight at Brevort Campground - August 21 & 22
3. Float - Fourth of July
 - construction under the leadership of Joni Grogan & Theresa France

FAITH FORMATION REVIEW

1. Dan's report
 - no report to submit to FFC

2. Evaluations
 - No information on the evaluations turned in

3. Coordinator's Performance
 - Dan wanted to know what went right, where he failed, why, what needs to be changed, and how do we accomplish that?
 - A lengthy discussion followed regarding the elementary, middle school and high school programs, as well as Sacramental Prep and RCIA.
 - * Need more teacher volunteers
 - * How do we get the kids here?
 - * Can Dan have written weekly announcements in classrooms for teachers?
 - * Prayer
 - * Snacks
 - sugar at the end of class - pretzels at the beginning)
 - Snack list
 - Deanna Kreski did a good job as snack organizer for elementary

(At 7:30 p.m., Mike Litzner joined the discussion)

- * High School - why have religious ed for high school? Who are we serving? What are the goals?
- * No curriculum for high school students
- * T-3 Timeline - students excited with first part
- * What makes them want to come?

Students who choose to go to faith formation		
<u>Like</u>	<u>Dislike</u>	<u>Suggestions</u>
Music Games Socializing "Safe" environment Fun Snacks	Bullies Turning pages in the book	Divide H.S. into small groups Focus groups Game of softball or soccer Guest speaker (priests, elders, Brother Jim, etc.) Tubing, Bowling, Activities

- * What do other high schools around the state do? What draws the kids & what activities do they do?
- * Provide focus groups for kids who “want to go deeper”/ teacher to choose how students are divided into these smaller groups to avoid problems.

Dan listened and asked for suggestions on where he needs to improve.

- Classes end at a specific time. Some parents upset when classes run over and they are waiting to pick up their children.
- Notify students of outdoor activities at least two or three weeks in advance so they can dress appropriately and so parents know ahead of time as well.
- Communication with teachers and students - be consistent
- Weekly announcements written so classes are not interrupted for verbal announcements.
- Weekly attendance sheets laid out on desk for teachers each week.
- Community Service for all grade levels
 - food drive
 - litter pickup
 - youth choir
 - student masses (readings, ushers, gifts)
 - visit LTC [visits by students. Partner up kids with a senior and ask, ‘How did God influence your life?’ Win-win for seniors & students]
 - High school only - go to the jail & visit inmates

Confirmation at Grades 7 & 8 /// some students do not attend after Sacrament of Confirmation

STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Mike indicated that the Parish Council and Finance Council are participating in a workshop, developing a mission statement and vision, and determining the Parish’s core values, where we are now and where we hope to be in five years. Each committee (including FFC) should plan goals and determine how they will meet their goals and also plan to help the Parish fulfill its mission.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. with a closing prayer lead by Tim.

The July meeting will be determined by Dan after securing a date convenient for Father Pawel.