

Minutes: Wayne County Planning Team-June 11, 2018

Absent: Fr. Symon, Fr. Michael Upson, Rich Molisani

The meeting started at 6:02pm

Deacon Bob led the Opening Prayer

Acceptance of the minutes for the last meeting: Motion by Martha Hegeman, seconded by Mary Capone

Shannon announced that we would try to stick to the agenda starting with the Scenarios, then Ministry Assessments, then dates for the next meeting.

She then explained how we were going to conduct the choosing of the Scenarios using blue/green stickers. Blue being our Number 1 choice and Green our Number 2 choice. We were given the stickers and had to place them on the maps.

That being done, we then had to say why we chose what we did. For the sake of writing the Scenarios are noted as follows: 2 + 2/2 (NS), 2 + 2/4 (EW), 3 + 1/A , 3 +1/D(SM/A) Summary of comments for choices 1 and 2 follow:

- 1 NS & 2 EW. There will be a lot of traveling no matter what, but that there were plenty of main roads to utilize.
- 1 SM/A & 2: 3 +1 A. The Latino community is tied w/ St. Max and Drexel even though most parishioners live to the East, they go to Marion. Good to keep the ties with St.Max.
- 1 SM/A & 2: EW. With the profile of the nursing home, hospital and needs it would be good to leave St. Michael's alone. Also, keep the ties for the Latino community with St. Max. Most likely only 2 pastors in the area and we need stability. Someone is going to have to move, comments were made before about the idea of St. Michael's having to cluster to be fair was irrelevant. St. Joe parishioners were all about leaving St. Michael's alone.

Shannon: This conversation is not about any one priest. We can't say who will be appointed as that is the responsibility of the Bishop and Priest Personnel Board

- 1 EW & 2: SM/A. The natural affiliations work better, that teachers and summer people and migrant camps have to be considered. Driving is aligns to the larger parishes and it makes sense to leave St. Michael's alone with all that goes on there.
- 1 EW & 2: SM/A. The travel distance is a long drive especially in the winter but possible. There is concern about housing for the priests and making mass times far enough apart to give the priest time to meet with parishioners. That St. Michaels alone is a fall out in 2 step process if we go with long term stability especially with more mass times.
- 1 EW & 2 NS. The southern part of the county is much busier travel wise.
- 1 SM/A & 2: EW. Has traveled it and does not want to have to travel it in bad weather. With the EW there are concern for the ministries.
- 1 EW & 2 SM/A. Once a decision is made: mass times: may cause migration to other churches especially in the west or parishioners may follow a priest that they like. Once things have been decided and staffed then people will make decisions about where to go based on mass times. Some churches are much closer together and there will be a change in financial support. Bedtown community: more prone to move without issue, no emotional ties. No history to keep them in a specific church.

- 1 EW & 2: SM/A. On the west side you have heavier population and leaves the East side to figure out how to deal with thinner population. Leave St. Michaels as it is and leaves the staffing the west the same with 2 priest. Affording service in a reasonable way is a concern.
- 1 N/S and 2: E/W. Natural affiliation and people from various towns travel to go to church with EW there is a population difference and travel distances will be an issue.
- 1 3 +1 A & 2: SM/A. There would be too many churches and then that if St. Michael's stood alone it would probably change after a year or two. We need to be concerned with ministry needs.
- 1 SM/A & 2: EW. The team picked the second one, concern for distances; picked the first one because kept hearing about the need and the priest and the path of least resistance for staffing.
- 1: NS & 2: SM/A. NS will be a bear in the winter. Grew up here and came back when retired. They may run into problems in the long haul. SM/A: lots going on with the ministries, hospitals, nursing homes and pastoral care.
- 1: EW & 2: NS. Distances not that big a concern, but is concerned about the effect this process will have on the parishes and doesn't want to see them go through this again. It is difficult and causes hurt feelings. EW is the strongest and long term the distances are manageable. NS has a natural division keeping strong parishes with those that need help.
- Chose 1: NS & 2: EW. He says manageability for having St. Michael stand alone would be good but short term, all it will do is make the change take longer. 2/2 is harder because it's too many churched. Financial issues occur. Priest can't get to know parishioners as well because they have to hurry to next mass. If the priests live in the middle the distance isn't so bad. Priests are called to the hospital approximately 4 times a month so it's important to live at least halfway.
- 1: SM/A & 2: EW. Going through the process is difficult but we should just rip the bandaid off and get it over with. The needs of St. Michael's is important but an artificial application. Merging with ST. Michael's, St. Joe's, and Blessed Trinity would be a lot. Geography and populations are so different. Geography is working against needs and population. We don't want to give the Bishop a hard time finding someone who will say yes to the appointment.

Shannon: after looking at results took off 3 + 1A, with approval of group

Other general comments: Read Divine Renovation. We miss the opportune time to get to know their parishioners 80/20. 80% during the week and only 20% to the bigger population on weekends. This will affect Mass time. Seems you can't have 2 priests not living together. May not need the supervision. Decision up to each priest. Priests want to get to each church –if trying to get to both travel is an issue. Staffing may call for appointments to stay in their own area. 2/2 or 3/1 one side is losing 3Masses the other side is losing none. If Bishop sees something is going to hurt a parish he'll try to figure out how to keep other from being hurt. Best possible is sustainment of 2 worship sites for CCBT. Preferences for Mass times will play a role in parishioners decisions.

Part 2:

Red/yellow stickers used on remaining three scenarios. Additional comments included:

- move to rip the bandaid off from ST. Michael stand alone.
- The NS was his #1 but he moved due to arguments
- bandaid, but would like to see a transitional situation
- Transition for SM/A
- Anything might be temporary

- No Name Change and No Lay Administration are issues.
- Any chance for a chaplain at the hospital. Sacramental issues = a need for a priest.

Shannon: We will be talking about the recommended mass schedules at some point, once we finalize the scenario recommendation. The mass schedule recommendation will provide important insights for new pastors who come into the clusters

- bandaid/age of priest is a concern. If someone dies we will need a scenario that keeps us stable.
- If St. Michaels priest still has 3 masses not fair to the others.
- Taking NS off the table.

July 11: next meeting. Hope to get to a recommendation for the Bishop in July.

We will work on a new communication update for parishes and the website.

Ministry Assessments: 101 responses so far. Please continue to promote survey through June. Inputting needs to get done, but let Shannon know if need more time in the beginning of July.

Mary C. Seminar on Listening: EAP. Shannon will look into it for resources

Meeting ended at 8:15pm

Respectfully submitted

Mary DeLisio