

**Archdiocese of Detroit Community Board
Sacred Heart Major Seminary
Regular Meeting
Meeting Minutes-November 19, 2022**

Call to order:

A regular meeting of the AOD Community Board was held on November 19, 2022 at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. It began at 8:06 am and was presided over by Deacon Russ Ortisi, with Deacon Aaron Poyer acting as secretary.

Morning prayer:

The Liturgy of the Hours was prayed as a group.

Roll call:

Present

Deacon Chris and Sharon Beltowski
Deacon Regis Buckley
Deacon Bob and Christine Calleja
Deacon Perry and Mary Clark
Deacon Dave and Kelly Fleming
Deacon John and Sue Fitzmaurice
Deacon Russ and Trish Ortisi
Deacon Aaron Poyer
Deacon Rick and Anna Rhein

Absent

Deacon Hector and Roci Anaya
Ann Buckley
Deacon Bob Gajda
Deacon Dennis and Brigid Loffreda
Deacon Alan Gwozdz
Julie Poyer

Approval of minutes from September 24, 2022:

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2022 meeting was made by Deacon Dave Fleming and seconded by Mary Clark.

First Order of Business:

Report from the Office of Clergy and Consecrated Life-Deacon Chris Beltowski

- All Deacon Meeting was held virtually on September 26, 2022.
- Diaconate Ordination celebrated at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on October 1, 2022.
- Diaconate Jubilee held at SHMS on October 30, 2022. Over 100 attendees present.
- Proposal 3- Deacon Chris Beltowski extended his appreciate for everyone's effort to bring about awareness.

- Convocation committee held their first meeting. Committee is planning to meet with ACTS XXIX in near future.
- Reminder to continue to pray for deacons and wives on payer list. There has been powerful and incredible stories of answered prayers.
- Family of Parishes-request to pray about whether time should be dedicated to discussing the transition and deacons' experience at the Convocation.
- Reminder to continue supporting priests with the implementation of FOP.
- AOD Community Board Meetings will occur on the third Saturday of odd months and will adjourn at 9:30 am instead of 9:00 am.

Old Business:

Upcoming events

- Diaconate Convocation- September 21-24, 2023, Boyne Mountain
- Deceased Clergy Mass- November 21, 2022 at 11:00 am, SHMS

- Deacon and Priest Mass now combined into one Deceased Clergy Mass coordinated by the Clergy office.
- Diaconal Vocation Awareness Night- November 30, 2022, SHMS

- Diaconate Couple's Retreat- February 17-19, 2023, Capuchin Retreat House

Other old business

- Assignment renewal process about to begin.
- Information pertaining to Sacred Heart Major Seminary classes shared.
 - Degreed graduates can audit classes.
 - Those studying at the undergraduate level cannot audit classes and this cannot be changed.
- Question raised as to how deacons can get continuing education.
 - Deacon Perry Clark volunteered to lead a working group to investigate this question.
- Women's committee
 - Trish Ortisi is unable to lead. Kelly Fleming volunteered to take over but wants help.

New Business/Open Forum Discussion

- Discussed who would accept responsibility for the aoddeacon.org website.
 - Good content but there are some gaps that need to be addressed.
 - Consider presenting a website tour at the convocation.
 - Goal to update the website by January 2023.
- Diaconate handbook needs a point person.
 - Information on mentoring and on-going education for ordained are potential topics to include.

- Welcome breakfast for deacons ordained in 2021 and 2022
 - Will be held at SHMS in May in place of the May Diaconate Community Board.
- Reminder of the different statuses of the diaconate
 - active
 - senior active- age 70, actively serving, annual renewal
 - senior retired- age 70, may still serve, not assigned to FOP

Next meeting: January 21, 2023 will be VIRTUAL via Ringcentral

Meeting ended in prayer: Deacon Regis Buckley

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Deacon Poyer and seconded by Deacon Chris Belowski.