

Agenda 04 16 16
AOD Diaconate Community Board

Call to Order 8:00 am –

Morning Prayer – bring your Breviary, phone or tablet

Role Call

Approval of Minutes for February 6, 2016

Report from Office of Clergy and Consecrated Life - Kevin

Report on Couple's Retreat and Women's Reflection Morning

Old Business:

- ID cards now available
- Funeral Announcement for deceased deacon/wives in clergy mail
- Deacon assignments (new) in clergy mail
- Men's Retreat, Convocation 2017
- Fifty Year Anniversary of restoration of the Permanent Diaconate
- Round Table discussion questions
- Memorial markers – plan a day to gather for dedication
- 2016 Mini Convocation - topics
- Deacon assignment to Cathedral
 - At this time no fixed assignment
 - Sign-up Genius now in use and will post well in advance (6-12 months)

New Business

- Role of Community Board
- Terms of Members of Board – stagger replacements
- Mini Retreats – full day or one day – overnight during week
- Visit/day of reflection Solanus Casey center – fall excursion
- Contribution to Camp Santa Maria – Fr Spezia

Open Forum Discussion

Assignments

Meeting Adjournment

AOD Diaconate Community Board
Meeting Minutes April 16, 2016

Meeting Called to Order 8:00

Attendees: Kevin Breen, Dennis Loffreda, Bridget Loffreda, Dave Carignan, Liz Carignan, Tim Maxwell, Tom Mohan, Glenn Melenyk, Sharon Melenyk

Morning Prayer

Minutes of February 6, 2016 meeting – approved

Report for Office of Clergy and Consecrated Life – Kevin Breen

- Assignment board for the deacons will meet on May 3rd
 - Five deacons requesting new assignment
 - Four deacons to be ordained and assigned in October
 - Two deacons requesting senior status
- Other deacons have requested renewal of assignment for one year only

Deacons Kevin Breen and Marc Gemellaro were requested to attend the February 21, 2016 Episcopal Meeting

- Of concern was the diaconate promise/vow of celibacy, the bishops want to be assured that the deacons fully understand the celibacy requirement upon the death of a spouse (the wife dies you cannot remarry) and that this requirement is emphasized during the entire formation time and process
- Fr. Dan Trapp recently spoke about the theological/religious aspect of celibacy during a recent formation day – there have been some issues with deacons ordained 20 plus years ago not understanding the requirement
- On a plus note the Archbishop is generally pleased with AOD diaconate formation process and feels that we have one of the better programs in the country. He wants to push ahead with the USCCB review of the AOD formation process
- There are seven new and three re-applications under review for the next formation class
 - not all are expected to be accepted
 - the rule of thumb is to error in favor of the Church when selecting candidates for the process meaning a seemingly qualified person may not be accepted solely based on credentials

- Diaconate information evening have been going well – last one at Our Lady of the Woods in Woodhaven – 5 attended in various stages of preparation – next Information Evening is planned for May at SHMS
 - Since parish deacons are often the first contact for potential candidates a suggestion was made that current pre-formation, formation and diaconate requirements be posted on the diaconate website for deacons to download
 - Changes throughout the years of the requirements are often unknown to long time ordained deacons - this would give them current and accurate information to speak from when approached by inquiring men

While Kevin was giving his report a question was asked about diaconate and continuing education

- Today all diaconate candidates are highly encouraged to obtain the MAPS degree
 - the diaconate program covers all “undergraduate” class and there are grants available to cover the cost difference between the undergrad level course and grad level course
 - at this time candidates are still responsible for the education costs until accepted into formation, this issue will be looked at with grants possibly being given to those in need letting education cost not be a hindrance to potential diaconate candidates
 - those candidates without bachelor degree should be able to receive their degree within their diaconal diploma
 - currently ordained deacon are allowed to audit classes at the seminary for \$100 per class – however it is suggested that ordained deacons be given the opportunity to complete their bachelors and/or MAPS degrees at little to no cost through grants
- Continuing Ed opportunities for deacons are regularly published in the Diaconate Community Update which Kevin Breen regularly sends via email
- Report on Couple’s Retreat and Women’s day of reflection - Therese Herbeck was well received and consideration is propose to ask Peter and Therese Herbeck to direct the couple’s retreat next year
- Those who attended the couples retreat enjoyed it
- On the topic of retreats – consideration is being given to host the retreats at St Paul of the Cross retreat house in Redford (Telegraph and I-96 area).

The Wine and Cheese tasting social was postpone from May 21th to the fall due to the seminary prepare to the Archbishop Gala Event

Old Business

- ID card are now available and 40 to 50 deacon have taken advantage to it so far – the cost is \$5.00 and the deacon may use either the AOD file photo or submit their own photo (preferably electronic)
- Funerals announcements for deacons and wives as well as those deacons who are ill are now regularly listed in the clergy mail.
- The new deacon assignments will be listed in the clergy mail as reported by the assignment board
- The Men’s Retreat in June is still without a speaker there was a conflict Fr Johnson – Kevin to talk to Msgr. Hogan about directing the retreat
- Fifty Year Anniversary of restoration of permanent diaconate 2017 – no definite plans yet – perhaps a charity event associated with our annual jubilee dinner - keep on radar
- Round Table discussion question will be part of mini-convocation 2016
- Memorial Marker
 - Inscription decided In memory of our brothers and sister of the diaconate community of the AOD who have passed to eternal life we remember 1 Corinthians 10: 31 “...whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God”
 - The marker was donated but the inscription is the diaconate responsibility. Short of a single out-right donation or a fundraiser would be solicited and monies generate listed by ordination class
 - It was suggested that a small donation be solicited from the diaconate community to support flowers and upkeep of the marker. The cemetery to be contacted to find out how and where the marker is inscribed and costs
 - A dedication ceremony would take place either the fall of 2016 but most likely spring of 2017
- Still looking for topic for the Fall 2016 mini-convocation – one suggestion was an in-service presentation of the new rights for marriage (the revise order for the celebration of the sacrament)
- Deacon assignment for service at the Cathedral
 - Msgr Hogan believe cathedral assignment belong to the entire community and no individual should be solely assign to the Cathedral as a parish
 - discussions are not closed
 - The reinstated sign up genius for deacons to sign up for Cathedral duty is working out well

New Business

- Role of the Community board is an advisor committee to the office of clergy and consecrated life and the community at large
 - Suggestions and opinions are relayed to the central office and other areas, which affect the diaconate community such as formation, continuing education and the wives, widows and widowers of the community.
 - However the board does not have authority to require any decisions to be adopted by areas such as central office, education or formation
 - It was discussed of having a formal representative from formation as a non-voting member from central office, formation, mentors, Kevin represents the Office of Clergy
 - currently one member of the community board, Dave Carignan, is on the formation team and could be considered our liaison
 - once or twice per year, other departments could be invited
 - it was also suggest that in part the role of the board is to be part of subcommittees concerning the various needs of the deacon such as continuing education, service the diaconate widows/widowers
 - another point of discussion was the role of the regional directors – how long is their term, their duty and function and how elected - all regional directors are invited to the board meetings
- Camp Santa Maria under the direction of Fr Spezia is looking for used lawn and garden items for the grounds of the Camp – donations should be brought to the seminary for Fr Spezia to transport
- A future diaconate community event would be a trip as a group for a day of reflection and a visit at the Solanus Casey Center – suggestion was made to make it in the fall of this year – further discussions at the next meeting
- A suggestion was made to have a mini-retreat (one overnight or one day) during the week offered to the community at large
- Our elected board has six diaconate couples. Members of the AOD Diaconate Community Board are elected to serve for a two years term. The board was rejuvenated in April of 2015 with the election of all new members.
 - It was decided that it would not be in the best interest for the continuity to have all the board members replaced every two years. Initiatives and ongoing business would need to be reintroduced every two years. A decision was made that one half of the current board membership would be allowed to serve a one-time three year term. The remaining members remain on the two year term. Current rules allow a current board member to serve two consecutive terms.
 - Beginning in the winter of 2017 there will be an election for one half of the board members every year. This will help to ensure that there will be continuous experience members for every board session. The one time term adjustment would expire in the spring of 2018.

Next Community Board Meeting: June 18, 2016 at 8:00 am at SHMS

From: G/S Melenyk <gmelenyk@mi.rr.com>

To: Jim Thibodeau <jimthibodeau@gmail.com>; Jenny Thibodeau <jennythibodeau@gmail.com>; Tim Maxwell <tmjmaxwell@gmail.com>; Tom Mohan <deaconmohan@gmail.com>; Dennis Loffreda <dloffred@aol.com>; Brigid Loffreda <loffylady@aol.com>; John Ball <sentry.ball2@gmail.com>; Sharon Melenyk <sharon.melenyk@gmail.com>; Glenn Melenyk <glenn.melenyk@gmail.com>; Liz Carignan <lizcarignan@yahoo.com>; Martha Maxwell <mjmaxwell@phasd.us>; Julie Mohan <birthingathletes@gmail.com>; Faith Ball <faith70x7x@gmail.com>

Cc: Kevin Breen <breen.kevin@aod.org>

Subject: Diaconate Community Board term proposal

Date: Thu, Apr 21, 2016 7:45 pm

During our board meeting last Saturday April 16, a proposal was made and adopted regarding the first term of the current members. Our elected board has six diaconate couples.

Members of the AOD Diaconate Community Board are elected to serve for a two years term. The board was rejuvenated in April of 2015 with the election of all new members. At the last board meeting, we decided that it would not be in the best interest for the continuity of the board to have all the board members replaced every two years. Initiatives and ongoing business would need to be reintroduced every two years. A decision was made that one half of the current board membership would be allowed to serve a one-time three year term. The remaining members remain on the two year term. Current rules allow a current board member to serve two consecutive terms. Beginning in the winter of 2017 there will be an election for one half of the board members every year. This will help to ensure that there will be continuous experience members for every board session.

All current AOD Diaconate Community Board members are invited to submit their names to serve for a current three year term. The term would expire in 2018. The need is for three deacons to step forward. If more than one half of the elected members, four or more, request the three year assignment, then the selection will be made by lottery of those who submitted their names. If less than one half of the elected members request the three year assignment, then there will be pleading, begging and drafting of the remaining members.

Please think about it and forward your desire to serve a three year term or remain on the 2 year term to me by May 7. The "election" will take place at our next Board Meeting scheduled for Saturday June 18. I hope to have the minutes from the last meeting out to you early next week.

John and Faith Ball - I have included you on this mail as an FYI. Your position and election is separate and unique as the senior status deacon representative. You will remain with a two year term.

Glenn

Glenn & Sharon Melenyk
gmelenyk@twmi.rr.com

From: G/S Melenyk <gmelenyk@mi.rr.com>

To: Jim Thibodeau <jimthibodeau@gmail.com>; Jenny Thibodeau <jennythibodeau@gmail.com>; Tim Maxwell <tmjmaxwell@gmail.com>; Tom Mohan <deaconmohan@gmail.com>; Dennis Loffreda <dloffred@aol.com>; Brigid Loffreda <loffylady@aol.com>; Dave Carignan <carignan.david@yahoo.com>; John Ball <sentry.ball2@gmail.com>; Mike Stewart <mstewart_mgs@yahoo.com>; Ron Grenda <ron_grenda@sbcglobal.net>; Joe Karle <jkarle67@gmail.com>; Joe Urbiel <deaconjoeurbiel@gmail.com>; John Manera <jmanera22@comcast.net>; Sheila Breen <nursemom1985@msn.com>; Sharon Melenyk <sharon.melenyk@gmail.com>; Glenn Melenyk <glenn.melenyk@gmail.com>; Liz Carignan <lizcarignan@yahoo.com>; Martha Maxwell <mjmaxwell@phasd.us>; Julie Mohan <birthingathletes@gmail.com>; Faith Ball <faith70x7x@gmail.com>; Kevin Breen <breen.kevin@aod.org>

Subject: Next Meeting

Date: Sat, Jun 4, 2016 12:39 pm

As a reminder our next Diaconate Community Board meeting is two weeks from today, Saturday June 18. Please send me any agenda items you wish included. The first order of business will be electing by lottery those who wish to extend their current term to be 3 years.

Those who have expressed their desire to extend include: Jim and Jenny Thibodeau, Tim and Martha Maxwell, Dennis and Brigid Loffreda, Glenn and Sharon Melenyk. If your interest has change or I have missed someone please let me know for inclusion on the ballot.

I will send out an agenda and the prior meeting's minutes sometime the week of the 12th.

Kevin: I assume we are in the Cardinal Dearden Porch.

Glenn

Glenn & Sharon Melenyk
gmelenyk@twmi.rr.com