

AOD Diaconate Community Board
Meeting Minutes September 21, 2019

Meeting Called to order 8:04 am with Liturgy of the Hours

Attendees: Kevin Breen, Bob Gajda, Dennis Loffreda, Brigid Loffreda, Skip Rodger, Alan Gwozdz, Dave Fleming, Kelly Fleming, Russ Ortisi & Trish Ortisi.

Russ approved minutes; Trish seconded.

Report from Office of clergy and Consecrated Life

- Kevin welcomed new members of board and gave a brief update of purpose of the Community Board, thanked them for stepping up and saying yes. Community Board helps to help keep office focused. Moving forward different things and helps keep Kevin on track.
- Report from clergy office, it's a busy time of the year, with new assignments
- Erin will be leaving in February, expected to be off normal maternity leave
- Convocation – Last time in 2017, we had 104 people registered, this time we have 122. We might be spread out a bit more than last time, Boyne Mountain is scrambling to get more rooms, as only 94 had been blocked off. Fr. Spezia is going to address the sexual abuse, everyone is getting a copy of Bishop Barron's book on sexual abuse crisis "Letter to Suffering Church." Kevin had presented Fr. Spezia our results from the mini convocation, we hope he will use them. There will be a table or booth for the community board in the vendor section, like a Meet and Greet.
- Deacon Vocations – still talking with formation team, we do have another information night November 14th at Shrine, also putting a call out for parishes to host future information nights as some first timers do not want to come out to Seminary. (Russ questioned how far out, as he has a couple of men at St. Kiernan interested, Kevin responded have been to Monroe, Rochester and Port Huron)
- Diaconate Directory, haven't really gotten handle on, we are continually working on updating the database, at convocation we will be taking pictures so hopefully we can connect to the directory on our website. (Trish questioned if there is a list of what we have and ask to have people check their addresses and phone numbers to update. led to discussion of website Russ is working on to include historical pictures and documents from Community Board. Brigid to create zip files of past minutes and agendas and send to Russ)
- Trish updated on the renaming of the women's group and new logo, Diaconate Women of Faith, Beautiful, Beloved, Blessed. (presented picture of logo) some T-shirts made up for women who have helped as well as some availability for women at the convocation, will have a card with upcoming events. Will introduce the new name and logo after housekeeping notes at convocation on Thursday night.
- Diaconate handbook, for those that didn't know, we did a simple post ordination handbook, still in the draft stage, helps guide post ordination, would like to have on

website, nothing official. By keeping as draft, guide, will be easier to update and change as needed.

- Grief Support –Bob presented the information he will have at convocation, Good Morning Ministries, very good organization for grief, also in website information regarding children and grief support. Goal if to have in the different regions but they already have their schedule for year, perhaps next year could add something for the deacons. Has sheets s.et up for the convocation for each region for people to sign up for information if they are interested in being involved in grief workshop. Wants to pass out info to widows as well as widowed deacons. Mostly how we need to support and talk about what they are going through. Also a grief workshop certification October 3 – 4 at the seminary. Bob will have 30 minutes on Friday after lunch along with a booth with information sheets.
- Brief introductions for new members who were able to attend. Alan Gwozdz, Dave and Kelly Fleming.
- Other things coming up, Ordination on 5th, procession in and out will be traditional, meaning wives will not be included.
- Jubilee is November 17, is a bit later because of Archbishop's schedule. Memorial Mass at St. John of the Cross on November 14.

Any other new business?

Community Board policies, this is last year for Dennis and Brigid and would like the Chair and Secretary positions to be continued by new members this year so we can be there if needed for questions etc. from new chair and secretary. We need to have an elections at the November meeting. (Russ, Chairs and Co-chairs so that co-chair would step up and add new co-chair.)

Motion to adjourn by Dave and seconded by Skip.

Closed at 9:05am

Prayer by Bob

Next meeting November 16 2019. Following third Saturday as in past, January 18, 2020, March 21, 2020 & May16, 2020.