

AOD Diaconate Community Board
Meeting Minutes March 16, 2019

Meeting Called to order 8:01 am, because of time constraints, no liturgy of the hours this morning, Kevin lead a brief prayer.

Attendees: Kevin Breen, Stan Avery, Bob Gajda, Dennis Loffreda, Brigid Loffreda, Skip Rodger, Jim Berch, and Carol Berch.

Russ approved minutes; Jim seconded.

Old Business:

Convocation – Boyne Mountain – Kevin provided updates to the Registration and menus, reiterating the need to adjust cost to include snack trays and wine, as we will not be able to bring in our own as we have in the past.

Diaconal Vocations – June 5 there is an information night, Dennis raised question about the information given out to inquiring men, he mentioned a gentleman at 55, was informed he was too old. Kevin did state they look at individual case by case for older men as the diocese would like the men to be ordained by their 65th birthdays. Letter encouraging priests to invite possible diaconate candidates to the information nights, is with Fr. Spezia and has not yet gone out. Kevin will let us know when the letter will be sent out.

Woman's Day Retreat – Well received by the small group of women who attended. Trish continues to work with the group to reform, had received a number of suggestions from survey passed out during retreat.

Greet and Meet with first- and second-year Deacons – May 4, many positive comments about formation experience and about the community board.

Committee Nomination and Elections – Nominations have gone out and elections will take place this week.

Convocation – Further discussion.

Bishop Fisher to discuss challenges and changes to the diaconate.

Special assignments for experienced Deacons.

Had previously discussed having Holy Hour to include issue of sexual abuse issues, will include this during Convocation.

Table at Convocation for updates to directory, Russ talked about setting up a station for everyone to update their addresses, phone numbers and especially getting the women's email addresses.

Bob Gadja will have a table at convocation for continuing his work on Grief Support.

Women's Group – former MOSAIC has a new working title of Deacon Wives, Women of Faith, Beautiful, Beloved, Blessed. Discussion included rolling out a graphic on Facebook or Women's own tab under Deacon's page, hopefully on the AOD website.

Grief Support – Has spreadsheet to update deceased Deacons to include deceased wives, would like this available on the AOD website, to be kept up to date, also had talked with Steve Mitchell, maybe include Deacons and wives who have lost children. It's an ongoing process.

There was some discussion regarding the July date for the next meeting and we will skip July to convene in September, which will be the old board and new board members.

Motion to adjourn by Trish and seconded by Sip.

Closed at 8:55am

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