

AOD Community Board  
Meeting Minutes, August 22, 2020

Meeting Called to order 8:03 am with prayer led by Deacon Alan Gwozdz

Attendees: Jim Berch, Carol Berch, Kevin Breen, Dave Fleming, Kelly Fleming, Alan Gwozdz, Dennis Loffreda, Brigid Loffreda, Steve Morello, Russ Ortisi, Trish Ortisi, Rick Rhein, Anne Rhein, Marc Rybinski, Skip Rodger

One correction to July minutes, Carol Berch was missed in attendee list. With correction, Alan motioned to approve and Russ seconded.

Kevin's report:

- Only one candidate scheduled for ordination October 17. As attendance is limited, only Deacon of the Mass, formation team and mentor will be attending, along with the candidates limited guests.
- Offices at Chancery are still closed, rotation schedule is still planned
- Jubilee has been cancelled, Kevin will send out pins and certificates, will be publicly acknowledged when we can again celebrate at the Seminary.
- Pete Cornell call Kevin to let him know that the Memorial Mass scheduled for November has been cancelled.
- Kevin reiterated that current office situation is still increasing time for processing paperwork.
- Financial situation because of COVID, Kevin's budget has been stripped, anything events will need to collect to cover costs.

Deacon Steve Morello gave an update on the work Family of Parishes Committee

- Steve discussed proposals for Diaconate ministry, suggested that anyone who hasn't read Unleash the Gospels and Vatican II documents to do so, and to continue studying the documents.
- Carol asked what other document Steve would suggest to read, he said basis for Diaconate is in Acts 6 and Luke chapters 6 & 7, sending out on mission to evangelize, so deacons should already be familiar with evangelization. We should prayerfully reflect on these.
- Sacred Heart Major Seminary had an online five week course, free of charge, on new evangelization over the summer. Jim Berch had attended and felt program was excellent.
- As part of benchmarking, the Committee is studying process in the Diocese of London in Ontario for best practices. As an example, Deacons have a dual assignment, 60% outside of the assigned parish with charitable organizations, the remainder within the parish. Also, looking for ministries not being done.
- Encounter Grow Witness should have a Deacon tab available for Deacons, Steve had sent a link to the Encounter Grow Witness. Russ mentioned that the site was currently down, hopefully will be updated shortly.
- Steve sees part of his role as an extension of Kevin's office to help in whatever way he can. Dennis said that the community board was also an extension to Kevin's office.
- Steve asked how we recruiting men for the Diaconate followed by discussion of our ideas that are waiting for pandemic to subside.

Other business:

- As elections have been postponed, for the time being, all have agreed to stay on status quo until at least March of 2021.
- We also discussed appointing three Deacons now rather than wait for elections. These three would be eligible for a first term when elections restart.
- Steve asked if have any workgroups or committees that focus on certain aspects, expressed concern that only gentleman will be ordained a Deacon this fall. Best recruiters are our brother Deacons and sister Deacon wives, if we could all bring in at least one other possible candidate, just think how big our program could become.
- There was a virtual info meeting, Dennis said that he would like to know when the next one is, as he has a couple of gentlemen he would like to invite to the next one.

Deacon Steve gave closing prayer

Russ motioned to adjourn, Dave seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20am.

Next meeting will be Saturday September 19, 2020 at 8am, followed by September 19, November 21, 2020 and January 16, 2021.