

AOD Diaconate Community Board
Meeting Minutes January 26, 2019

Meeting Called to order 8:06 am, began with morning prayer, led by Russ Ortisi

Attendees: Kevin Breen, Stan Avery, Jim Berch, Carol Berch, Bob Gajda, Dennis Loffreda, Brigid Loffreda, Marc Rybinski, Suzanna Rybinski, Skip Rodger

After one change to minutes, next meeting date was noted as March 16, 2019 rather than January 19, 2019, Stan approved minutes, Marc seconded.

Old Business:

Convocation – Boyne Mountain – Kevin presented pictures he had taken when visiting the new facility at Boyne Mountain as well as a tentative schedule of events that is still a work in progress. Kevin will be confirming the availability of the facilities activities during our stay. Facility is about 30 minutes further south than Boyne Highlands, but otherwise very similar. Current guestimate is about \$750 per couple, rooms will all be the same rather than making a choice of room type. Kevin would like to have the meal choices made at reservation desk to ensure all participants have been covered. Dennis questioned if the Community Board would have a presence and purpose? Last convocation we distributed printed copies of the handbook draft. Kevin doesn't have anything that would require distribution, our purpose would be a meet and greet table. Carol noted there a retreats facilities in the area that we may not be aware of, wondered if they could be included in the vendor displays. The planning committee is busy working to make this a successful event for us.

Diaconal Vocations – Two upcoming information nights, February 20 and March 20 at SHMS. Carol asked if flyers could be sent out for deacons to add to their parish bulletins. We had one inquiry after last information night.

Woman's Day Retreat – Looking at Lent, Erin is still trying to find an available speaker. Carol Berch said she may have an idea, will let Kevin or Erin know.

Jubilarians – Mass and dinner will be Sunday, November 3, 2019

Memorial Mass – Will be Thursday, November 14, 2019

New Business / Open Forum Discussion:

Day of Reflection at Cathedral – Dennis had called for possible dates of March 2 or March 16, however we do not yet have an agenda or timeframe. Will push back to May while plans are firmed up. Kevin suggested a half day so that it would not impede on Deacon's who would be serving Saturday evening Mass. Dennis noted that he had found a number of liturgical services, rosaries, adoration services on the USCCB website and would research further. Need to contact Msgr. Bugarin to see if he could be our speaker.

Greet and Meet with first and second year Deacons – April 27, 2019, we will use the same questions sent out last year to start discussions. Dennis asked that everyone on the committee to spread out amongst the first and second year deacons. Kevin noted that he would start the ball rolling on the date.

Grief Support Group – Dcn. Bob Gadjia Working with Erin and Pete for list of widows and widowers in our community. His thought is to have one person from each vicariate head support groups, would cut down on distance for traveling. Still in beginning stages.

Couple Retreat – February 15 – 17th, have about 20 couples registered thus far. Fr. Dan Crosby will be our speaker. Again at Capuchin Retreat Center in Washington.

Men's Retreat – June 14 – 16th, also at the Capuchin Retreat Center, Fr. Manuel Chircop will be the speaker. There was also a brief discussion on Fr. Spezia's letter to pastors regarding the need to budget for Deacon's retreats during the year. There had been Deacons who didn't attend convocation or retreats in past as parishes couldn't or wouldn't afford and Deacon was not able to afford. Kevin said that all should let him know if they are in that situation and something would be worked out.

Assignments – Ongoing notices are being sent out to make sure everyone has remembered to turn in their assignment letters.

Diaconate Directory Update – Some names, phone numbers and addresses need to be updated. Last update includes the new Deacons as aspirants. Not going to do another picture directory, but will update electronic version and updates.

Survey Monkey – Has list of events at Cathedral where Deacons are needed to serve. Also, if Deacons have candidates for Rite of Election, would be good if they could serve that liturgy.

Committee Elections – Need to verify whose rotation is up and start the election process.

We ended with Liturgy of the Hours and a prayer for Michael Berch.

Jim Berch called for close, Marc Rybinski seconded.

Closed at 9:15am

Next meeting March 16, 2019.