

Deacon Council Minutes 3 - 11 - 16

Attending: Bob Ball, Denis Coan, Dennis Kudlak, Kevin Kunik, Fr. Mark Nowak, Bill Saborsky, Richard Shewman, Dennis Socash via Face Time, Denise & Jerry Sobrowski, Bob Walker, Steve Washek.

Opening prayer: Steve Washek

The minutes from the January 8, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

Old Business:

1. Because of the referral in the minutes to Michael Adamus, Director of Disabilities Ministries, it was mentioned that Michael was leaving, and a search for a replacement will begin soon. No one had any further comments or corrections to the business from the last meeting, so we moved on to:

New business: (Around the table)

1. Steve Washek said that the formation process will be in need of someone to direct Spiritual Formation, as he and Vicky will be stepping down soon.
2. Fr. Mark Nowak:
 - a. Diocese will be re-vamping the website soon. The Deacon section should remain unchanged other than some minor updates..
 - b. They are currently in the midst of interviewing nine men for the fall 2016 formation as Aspirants to Candidacy.
 - c. A referral to the website "Connections", the monthly newsletter of ideas and reflections for homilists and preachers, will be included in the next deacon newsletter.
3. Kevin Kunik:
 - a. Deacon Study Day update - the presentation by Deacon William T. Ditewig will be recorded for future use. His topic is "The Theology of the Permanent Diaconate".
 - b. The forms for Continuing Education for 2015 continue to trickle in.
4. Dennis Kudlak stated that an official social media update will be coming soon.
5. Bob Ball said that the arrangements for the yearly retreats for 2016 have been set up, and e-mails concerning this have been sent to all deacons in the diocese.
6. Jerry Sobrowski:
 - a. It was reported that some inappropriate comments have been posted on social media. The personal board will be advised to look into this situation. It was decided that the Social Media Policy by the USCCB should be followed until a diocesan policy is written.
 - b. The second and third paragraphs from item # 5 of the December minutes was re-read. The election item was shelved because of page 47, section (a) of Deacon Personnel Policy Manual.

- C. Regarding our getting away from our plan to do whatever possible for the whole Deacon Community, it was stated that the Care and Concern and/or the Brothers and Sisters To Us processes need to be resurrected to serve the community better. Jerry said he would coordinate a survey asking how we can better serve the community.

Adjournment: Our next official meeting will be on Friday, May 13, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. in the Wienker room. Having no further business, we adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deacon Robert L. Walker