

Deacon Council Meeting

November 10, 2022

Deacon Ray Sobina opened the meeting with a prayer

Attendance: Deacon Thomas McAraw, Deacon Richard O'Polka, Deacon Richard Brogdon, Deacon Frank Luciani, Deacon Raymond Sobina, Eleanor Walker, and Peggy Jacquel were present. Very Rev. Nicholas Rauch, and Deacon Martin Aubel were absent.

The minutes of the September 8, 2022, meeting were reviewed and approved with the exception that the first sentence was revised to read "Deacon Ray Sobina informed us that a Deacon Formation draft is being developed in accordance with The National Directory and was typed and ready for review. It was noted that the word "draft" had been omitted.

Deacon Tom McAraw and Deacon Ray Sobina gave the Deacon Council some updates on the draft of the Deacon Formation which is being formulated in accordance with the recently published USCCB formation guidelines.

The Deacon Council gratefully accepted volunteers Deacon Rick Winschel, Deacon Larry Tyers, Deacon Gene Miller, Deacon Doug Konzel, and Deacon Richard Shewman as members of the Committee to revise the Deacon Policy Manual. It was agreed that it was the hope of the Deacon Council that the Committee to revise the Deacon Policy Manual would meet to begin the process before the end of the year.

Deacon Richard Brogdon discussed possibilities of reviewing and revising the current Website for Deacons and forming a committee to do so.

Deacon Tom McAraw presented the Diocesan Policy on appropriate Deacon attire. Deacon Council approved it as read.

Deacon Council discussed a suggestion by Deacon Richard Shewman that a Lenten day of recollection for the deacon community on the topic of aging as a spiritual practice/spirituality of aging might be beneficial. Especially given the average age of the deacon community and the number of deacons who passed away this past year. The Deacon Council agreed that it was a good idea.

Deacon Ray Sobina informed Deacon Council that The Deacon Retreat this coming year was planned for Sunday, August 6 to Wednesday, August 9 at Villa Maria Retreat Center and Thursday, September 14 to Sunday, September 17 at Bethany Retreat Center. Topic will be Eucharistic Revival. A presenter is currently being sought.

Deacon Frank Luciani ended the meeting with a prayer.