

**PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Diocese of San Diego**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**Wednesday, January 30, 2019**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER & OPENING PRAYER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and opened with the Diocesan Prayer.

2.0 ROLL CALL

Present: Bishop McElroy and Fathers: Bautista, Bosque, Brockhaus, Escalante, Escurel, Herrera, Horning, Manahan, Masillamony, Murphy, Nuñez, Pham, Ratajczak, Ravenkamp, Spahr

Excused: Bishop Dolan and Fathers: Minimo, Zárate-Suárez

3.0 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair: Peter Escalante

Vice-Chair: Michael Pham

4.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda approved

5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES of November 7, 2018 Meeting

No corrections

6.0 DEANERY REPORTS

**Welcome new members:** Bosque, Escurel, Herrera, Horning, Manahan, Masillamony, Nuñez

**Cathedral Deanery:** No report

**El Cajon Deanery:** There is a need for discussion on the discrimination of the words “credible accusation” and the lack of understanding and appreciation of how it is defined. Bishop McElroy will address this issue at Winter Assembly.

**El Centro Deanery:** No report

**Escondido Deanery:** There is a discussion about FIAT Schools in the South Bay.

**Mission Deanery:** No report

**Oceanside Deanery:** No report

**South Bay Deanery:** No report

7.0 REPORTS

7.1 **Cultural Diversity:**

- The African-American Revival took place at Good Shepherd.
- Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese Lunar New Year will be celebrated in February.

7.2 **Office for Priests/Clergy Concerns:**

- Topics to be discussed during Fall Assembly are: climate change, and migrant situation in San Diego.

- There is a need to increase the convocation fee to \$1500.00 but it will be increased by \$100.00 dollars each year for the next three years. Parishes with financial hardship will get subsidy.
- Diane Davis reported that questions have arisen about the care for the retired priests. The committee for the retired will look into this.

### 7.3 **Pastoral Planning:**

- No report

### 7.4 **RECOPS**

- The Chair and Vice-Chair from Presbyteral Council attend the regional meeting with other priests from other dioceses. The Diocese of San Diego belongs to Region 11 which meets 3 times a year: 2 in San Diego, CA and 1 in Reno, NV. The new bishop from the region usually attends the meeting. They discuss the best practices in the diocese. They dialogue certain issues pertaining to the diocese and how their council reach their decision. Recommendations are made to the California Catholic Conference of Bishops. Bishop McElroy is the Vice-Chair.
- Visiting priests need to provide credentials for performing marriages and funerals in the diocese.
- We need to have policies regarding lay ministers who give talks and retreats.

### 7.5 **AD HOC Committee for Sabbatical Priests**

- The policy for sabbatical leave request for priests has been approved.

## 8.0 BISHOPS ITEMS

### 8.1 **Sexual Abuse Litigation**

- A discussion took place on a bill that will be introduced by Fletcher which will include public schools.
- The Diocese will meet the needs of the victims. There are a number of cases that are presently known.
- There is opportunity for pastoral work to meet with victims.
- Corporate structuring assures that parishes are not part of the diocese in terms of liabilities.

### 8.2 **Undocumented Issue**

- Background checks for those who work in parishes.
- If not documented, an adult needs to be present with the undocumented individual (i.e. in the classroom with a catechist).

### 8.3 **Social Security and Medicare Issue**

- Priests need to pay Social Security for at least 40 quarters in order to receive medicare coverage for retirement.
- It is important for the diocese to verify that priests pay into Social Security.
- Incardinated priests should have paid at least 10 years into Social Security and are assured of medical coverage.
- New priests and those coming from other countries need to be educated/advised on how to file taxes.

#### 8.4 **Synod on young people**

- Determine how to engage and focus on the young adults to have an active, meaningful moral lives and have involvement in pastoral work in parish communities.
- Need to establish programs with initiatives to promote development of spiritual growth and to encourage faith-based activities.
- Need to form a delegation of young adults under 40 years old by pastors to start synod of young people in San Diego in the Fall.

#### 8.5 **Annual Catholic Appeal**

- ACA has increased 1.5% from last year.
- Pastors may face difficulty in talking ACA to their parishes this year because sexual abuse issue.

### 9.0 OLD BUSINESS

### 10.0 NEW BUSINESS

#### 10.1 **Pastoral Council for Diocese**

- How to bring more lay participation/consultation in agenda setting and decision making in the diocese.

### 11.0 ADJOURNMENT – 12:00 P.M

Next meeting Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 10:00 A.M