

Brief summary of Pastoral Planning steps January 2019 –January 2020

1. **During January and February of 2019**, Bernie Swain met with parish staff, who briefed him on the history of the parish property and to clarify the purpose of pastoral planning for the future of the parish's patrimony. Bernie submitted a document outlining the steps to be taken in meetings with the congregation, with the parish pastoral council, and with the parish finance council.
2. **On March 14th 2019**, Bernie Swain met with the parish pastoral council and parish finance council to provide an overview of the process to be followed, as well as the talking points for meetings with the parish population and the two councils, and finally some basic reflection questions to focus people's responses.
3. **Initial meetings were held on May 9, on June 1, June 3, and June 4**, first with the congregation following Mass, then with some joint beings for congregation and the councils. Following these meetings Bernie Swain sent transcripts of the brainstorming activities, which had yielded 120 ideas regarding the future of the property.
4. **On September 4, 2019**, the parish pastoral council received these transcripts divided into four major areas of concern: (a) the situation and Franklin, (b) the parish situation, (c) issues for the parish's future, and (d) options for the property. And at the same time, Bernie Swain distilled the data on these transcripts into four possible paths forward: (1) finding a new tenant for the building, (2) selling the property, (3) renovating or converting the building to mixed uses, and (4) building a new building while selling or leasing unneeded land. The councils discussed pros and cons of each path to begin forming a consensus position
5. **On October 22, 2019** the councils discussed the disposition of the property in an attempt to discern the best possible path. At this point it became clear that some paths were not viable, and a third path was deemed undesirable. The council then began a period of reflection before focusing on the fourth path.
6. **On December 10, 2019** the council discussion began to establish a clear consensus, namely: neither #1 finding a new tenant nor #3 renovating the current building were viable options; #2 selling the property was disliked as a net loss for the parish's future. This left option #4: building a new building and selling or leasing unneeded land. The discussion then focused on specific issues that this option raised.
7. **January 28, 2020** was devoted to the established consensus choice, option #4. Some discussion regarded the timing of the transition to a new building, and the logistics involved. But the bulk of the discussion concerned the purposes or functions of the new building. The list of possibilities included: classrooms administration and meeting space, rectory offices, meeting spaces for other purposes, library in resource areas, kitchen and storage needs, etc. But the general agreement was that the building would be devoted to faith formation of all parishioners as the umbrella function, with other options to be considered as secondary items.

The intention was to further pursue the discussion of functions at the next meeting of the councils. But the arrival of Covid suspended the planning process, which now resumes in 2022, starting with an established consensus to build a new building and sell or lease the remaining property. The aim now is to supply the pastor and staff with a recommendation for action following its next meeting in March.