

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
October 22, 2009  
7:30 p.m. - Parish Annex

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

Council members present included: Anita Crowder, Lorraine Hencheck, Joe Stiles, Lisa Hilliker, Greg Doud, Paul Madix, Lennice Lytle, Dan DeBrosse, Chris Schell, and Vicente Santamarina. Patrick Leshner, Chad Drinnen, and Father Larry Tensi were also in attendance. Jim Stiegler was excused absent.

**Opening Prayer**

Dan DeBrosse offered the opening prayer.

**Reading Mission Statement/Purpose**

Greg Doud read the Mission Statement and Lorraine Hencheck read the Council Purpose.

**Review Minutes/Commission Reports**

Reviewed and accepted.

**Boiler Work Update - Patrick Leshner**

Patrick Leshner reported on the current status of the school boilers. The new boilers are being installed and should be completed by Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> or the beginning of the following week.

**Capital Campaign Update - Patrick Leshner**

Patrick Leshner reported that the Capital Campaign is doing very well and the contributions are coming in on a regular basis. Lennice Lytle sent out reminders and updates to the donors to the capital campaign. At present the parish debt to the Archdiocese is \$57,000.00 and there is \$64,000.00 in the account so the parish is in a place to pay it off at this time.

The bids for the undercroft should be in the week of October 26<sup>th</sup>. There are some preliminary draft plans for the parish office that are ready to be reviewed.

**Old Business**

**Staff Report**

Father Larry reported that the staff will be on retreat from November 9<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> at Saint Meinrad retreat center in Indiana.

The Archdiocese is offering a new program for pastoral leadership entitled "Good Leaders Good Shepherds." Father Larry, along with 30 other priests from the Archdiocese, will take part in the two year program.

### **Faith Formation - Vicente Santamarina**

In response to setting up a plan to obtain goal #7 of the Talents Plan, Jim Miller from the Vocation Committee and Scott Mussari of Faith Formation will be meeting with Sister Ellen Doyle. Dan DeBrosse will attend the meeting as a representative of Parish Council and bring back a report for the December meeting.

### **Voice from Parish Idea – Paul Madix**

Paul Madix gave an update on this idea and asked for suggestions on how to determine if it would be successful. The following comments and questions came out of the discussion:

1. The number of ideas submitted in a month, ideas sent to a web site, phone calls made to parishioners, tracking the number of ideas submitted could be one way to determine the success of the idea.
2. Poll new members of the parish to see how satisfied they are with the parish.
3. Older members are more likely to express their opinion than newer members of the parish.
4. It was pointed out that it may be difficult to collect the information. Most people come to church and stay and that shows their satisfaction, if they were not satisfied they would not come.
5. If a paper survey is sent out, it is not likely to be returned
6. Is there a possibility that the Parish Council could open itself up to matters they are not prepared to handle.
7. A sign of success would be having access to the Parish Council. An example would be having a table at doughnut Sunday to talk to the council members.
8. It has been found that most parishioners have no problem expressing their opinions and concerns via email.
9. Though the neighbor groups is a great idea, how do you get the people together with all of the time commitments that people have at this time?
10. You cannot ask for input and do nothing with it.
11. Parish Council members need to ask themselves whether they represent the voice of the parish and if people have access to them.
12. Newer members of the parish may not know who the Parish Council members are.
13. Do we have a purpose driven parish? The most effective parishes have a purpose towards which they are moving.
14. The goal is to make sure that the council members are in touch with the members of the parish. How do the members reach out to the members of the parish?

Members of the council felt that if a parishioner has a strong feel about something and seeks support for the idea, the parish is open to listening and trying out new things.

The council decided to start at doughnut Sunday and see the response of the parishioners and go from there with this idea. Lennice Lytle will send the schedule of doughnut Sundays to Lisa Hilliker and have members sign up for the Sundays of their choice. There will be a need for two members for each of the Sundays.

An announcement will be made to let parishioners know council members will be in the undercroft to talk with them. December will be the first time this idea will be implemented. A table with some focal point, such as an exhibit board, will be displayed.

It was decided to continue the discussion of this idea at the December meeting.

## **New Business**

### **Education Commission Charter Approval**

Members of the Parish Council were asked to vote on the acceptance of the Education Commission Charter that they were given at the last meeting to review.

Dan DeBrosse motioned to accept the charter as written and it was seconded by Joe Stiles. All members voted unanimously to accept the charter. Paul Madix will report the results back to Education Commission.

### **Parish Council By Laws**

Joe Stiles and Chris Schell who make up the task force will report back to Parish Council in the January meeting about the progress of the by-laws review.

### **Recycling How –To in Bulletin**

Chris Schell was thanked for her article that she put together for the newsletter and the bulletin regarding the use of the recycling bins at the parish.

### **Stewardship Commission Mission Statement**

Joe Stiles read the Stewardship Commission Mission Statement to the council members. Members of the council were asked to keep a copy of the statement in their binders.

### **Election of PPC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

Members for the Parish Council were asked to give nominations for these two positions. A vote took place and Lisa Hilliker was elected Chairperson and Paul Madix was elected Vice Chairperson.

## **Commission Reports**

Commission reports were sent out to Parish Council members and reviewed at the meeting. To view these reports please access the commission minutes on the church web page.

**Meeting Schedule:** Our next PPC meeting is December 17, 2009 in the Parish Annex.

**Please note:** Agenda items are due 2 weeks before the next meeting

**Adjournment:** 9:45 p.m.

**Closing Prayer:** Dan DeBrosse

Respectfully submitted by Chad Drinnen