

**St Thomas More
Pastoral Council Minutes
January 18, 2010
7:00 pm Sacred Heart Room**

Staff Present: Father Patrick Reynolds, Father Daniel Dillard, and Steve DuPerrieu

Members Present: Martha Argotte, Tim Bray, Cathy Elliott, Brenda Greenwell, Buzz LaGesse, Terry Larbes, Judy Milford, Nadie Vance, Camille Warden, and Vicki Woods

- I. Tim Bray called the meeting to order.
- II. Scripture Reading and Discussion-Luke 1: 1-4 and Luke 4: 14-21
- III. Minutes were approved as written.
- IV. Buzz LaGesse suggested we revisit the Parish collections for Haiti relief. A special collection was taken at last weekend's masses but Buzz feels another appeal should be made. All of council was in agreement. An additional appeal will be placed in this weekend's bulletin. Father Pat suggested using the Catholic Relief Fund when making our donation.
- V. **STM Administrator Update-** Steve Duperrieu (new Parish Administrator) introduced himself and gave a brief history of his life/work experience. He thanked Father Pat and complimented the Parish's selection process. Steve reported that after 1 week on the job he believes "nothing is broken". Some of his key goals were to help bring clarity to Parish Council's role, establish a capital maintenance fund, work closely with the finance committee, and help all functioning boards to move forward. Tim invited Steve to attend our February meeting.
- VI. **Finance Update-** Buzz reported a great month for contributions. He informed that we have a \$62,000 excess in YTD revenues.

- VII. **Ministry Reports-** Camille reported on Celebrate your Marriage, Couples in Christ, and Mom's Group. The annual Celebrate your Marriage will be held on Saturday, February 6th. Couples in Christ and Mom's Group will sponsor a bake sale for Hope Unlimited on January 23rd and 24th.

Father Daniel reported that Kelly Veach won the chili cook-off at the Advent Celebration.

Father Pat reported that New Members Dinner will be held on the last Saturday in January.

Nadie reported on RCIA, Adult Education, Men's Prayer Breakfast and Catholic Way Bible Study. RCIA reports the Rite of Sending and Rite of Election will be celebrated Sunday, February 14th. Men's Prayer Breakfast will be honoring the ladies on February 13th. Bible study leaders report that attendance remains strong.

Cathy received a report from Missy on Development and Stewardship. This will be added to our minutes as an attachment.

Martha reported on the Hispanic Community. A Hispanic marriage retreat will be held this weekend. A mobile unit (immigration on wheels) will be at St. Mary in June to help with immigration issues.

- VIII. **Youth Ministry-** Danny Thomas has resigned his position and will be leaving at the end of the week. Volunteers and Father Daniel will keep the youth activities ongoing.
- IX. **Hispanic Health Fair-** Council requested more information from Martha regarding the desires for a STM health fair. Mike gave information on WKCTCS dental clinic. Martha will follow up on the information provided. Tim and Vicki will contact STM parishioners (dentists) to gather information on possibilities for treatment in a "health fair" setting.

- X. **STM Security Systems/Outdoor Lighting-** Walter asked council to give some timeline as to when we would be installing the Alert security system planned at the November Council meeting. Council agreed that at this time we cannot give any specifics. Steve suggested we make sure we don't over secure the campus and that staff be asked of their needs. Father Pat and Steve will gather information from the staff at their next meeting. At this time no date can be set.

All were in agreement that outdoor lighting was desperately needed on the front lawn of the Church. Steve suggested that parishioners be made aware of this need. He will gather information on lighting and report next month. Cathy volunteered to touch base with Missy and make a plan to inform the Parish of this need through the bulletin.

- XI. **Parish Hall Rental Agreement-** Due to distasteful newspaper ads concerning a fundraising event to have been held at STM's Parish Hall and an anonymous, angry anti-Catholic letter sent to Father Pat, Council strongly suggested we rethink our Parish Hall rental policies. Cathy and Camille will meet with Steve to start revising the existing policies.
- XII. **Capital Campaign-**Council will ask Nancy Sturgis (chair of core committee) to attend the February meeting and give an update on the Core committee's collection of information concerning our capital campaign.
- XIII. **Just Faith Discussion-** Council discussed the idea of holding the "Just Faith" sessions at STM. It was decided to invite Father Daniels mother to speak to an interested group of parishioners at her earliest convenience. Camille will be contacting Carolyn Murphey to inquire about the possibility of incorporating the Just Faith informational meeting with the Over 50's Potluck held on February 2nd. The next Over 50's Potluck would be held on April 6th. All arrangements depend upon the availability of Father Daniel's mother.

- XIV. **Ecumenism and Interreligious Relations-** Father Pat shared an email received from Father Tony (Ecumenical Officer and Director of the Office of Ecumenism) stating that there were 21 Parish Ecumenical Advocates assisting their pastors in promoting ecumenism in their communities. Father Pat showed concern that STM did not have such an advocate.

Closing Prayer: Brenda Greenwell

Next Executive Council Meeting: February 8th

Next Parish Council Meeting: February 15th

February Closing Prayer: Walter Haberlock