

St. Mark Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes † December 1, 2009

In Attendance: Eileen Gallagher, Arthur Packard, KC Shinnars, Chuck Chrimes, Dennis Coleman, Kim Antolini, Nancy Thibodeau, Theresa Rouse, Lisa Strickland, Lizzie Espendez. Dennis Coleman, Deacon Louis Pais, Deacon Robert Murphy, Ralph Wearsh

Excused: Tom Rider, Fr. Brad Jones, Msgr. Richard Bellow, Deacon Ron Sherwood, Alex Sabo

Guests: Neil Gallagher, Wes Strickland, Scott Bruno

Eileen Gallagher welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a prayer and a special Hail Mary for Msgr. Bellow. Deacon Louis gave an update on Msgr. Bellow's condition.

Guest Discussions

Wes Strickland - discussed a possible fundraiser with his company - ISS - selling candy bars. Excellent nutritional/sports candy bars. Church would get them for \$12 per box (tray) could sell them at that price. ISS would also donate \$5 for each box sold.

Neil Gallagher - Total cost of building was \$8.2M. Funds raised and cash collected - \$6.1. Need to raise \$2.1M and pay off the Debt in 7 years or less. We have enough money with anticipated payments in pledges and cash to pay the \$30,000 a month until February 2010. There are a limited number of pledges that could help us get beyond February. Church sent a reminder to people that made a pledge who never paid or paid limited funds about their obligations. Neil discussed the efforts being used to help raise funds from new parishioners as well as the entire parish. It was also discussed that this will be a 1 year drive. We will also have a second collection twice a month for debt reduction.

Scott Bruno - Building maintenance update. Chapel was redone and we would like to have new carpet (as well as the rest of the entire building. Bathrooms are also almost completely redone (specifically in the parish center). Rooms were painted in the second floor during the parish outreach day. Family center floors were done for \$600 (vs. \$2400 last year). Have also cut our light replacement cost significantly. We have been paying \$1500/mo for the phone system and will be paying \$800 per month moving forward in 2010.

Scott needs volunteers for dusting the new church (once a month). Have a parishioner who has a landscaping business that is willing to give us a tremendous deal that will drive our costs down. Scott is investigating this. Scott is also looking for parishioners who are able to do certain jobs or assist him with maintenance around the parish.

Minutes: The November 13, 2009 meeting minutes were approved.

Goals and Objectives

Survey

We had less than 5% of the parish fill out the surveys (134). Discussion was had about having people fill them out in mass so we can get better information. Will take this up in the next few meetings to decide what to do moving forward.

Education Ministry Update:

KC Shinnars asked Lisa Modzelewski about joining the education commission and she agreed.

Communications Committee

Discussion about the parish video was discussed. The parish news letter was discussed. Want to make sure that we have a critical mass of people that want a newsletter. Ideas for the newsletter centered on items that have longer shelf life and would focus on parish families, staff, etc. It was also discussed having a place on the website for items that might have missed the bulletin. Also are looking at changing the look and feel for the website on a continual basis.

Living Your Strengths

Lisa and Dennis discussed the input they heard from St. Matthews. They stated that they learned we should state our goals and objective as well as the mission of the church loud and clear. Also heard how the passion for Living Your Strengths comes from everyone. We are working on having more facilitators to help drive more LYS participation. There was a discussion of developing a parish plan, especially now that the church is built.

Old Business:

Kim A reported that we only sold a few DVDs for the dedication. However we are going to do a few additional things to sell more DVDs (approach Bible Study, KofC, etc.)

New Business

January meeting will be chaired by Kim A. Epiphany party most likely will be canceled due to Msgr. Bellow's illness.

Prayerful reflection was done by Ralph Wearsh.

Thank you notes to Scott Bruno and to Fr. Ron Wearsh for saying Thanksgiving Mass.

Pastors Comments

Deacon Louis said we are going to be having all Christmas Masses as scheduled. We will also be having the Reconciliation service on December 16.

Deacon Louis concluded with a prayer.