

HOLY FAMILY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – June 25, 2008

PRESENT: Father Robert, Phil Behling, Mike Lynett, Kevin Long, Mark Hirschmann, Harriet Lazinski, Michael Lucey, Dave Schulz, Mike Beuche. Pam Ringsred, Paula Hogan, Claire Wycklendt, Penny Kelsey Tom Gaeta **ABSENT:** Paul Tilleman, Nick Desien, Lucia Korom

PRIOR MINUTES: The May 2008 minutes were approved.

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL SOCIAL: Mike B. and Claire W will organize this annual potluck dinner scheduled for Wed 8/6 at 7pm.. Watch for emails from them for details!

FINANCE UPDATE: Kevin Long reports that Tony is getting better every day and is scheduled to return to work July 1st. Chris Steinmetz will chair the Finance Committee and will work closely with Tony and the trustees to shepherd parish finances. The Council commends Carolyn Sanger for her valuable work in keeping crucial office duties covered during a recent period with high staff absences. Budget trends are unchanged.

FAITH IN OUR FUTURE CAMPAIGN: Kevin describes a process already well underway and about to pick up speed, with a full case study due by early August and campaign completion before 12/31/08. Our suggested goal is \$1.2m (in light of our having raised \$1.3+m for the Jubilee campaign a few years ago). If that goal is met, \$764k would flow to our parish.. Leadership for the campaign as well as specific spending priorities are being identified. The steering committee will meet in early July with the consultant. The consultant advises that goals such as building the endowment fund and replacing the boiler are non starters in terms of generating enthusiasm among donors, and instead advises highlighting goals that are concrete, immediate, and appealing. One such idea that may be gaining traction is the creation of a gathering space to foster community before and after Mass. There is concern that such a space be handicap accessible. The PC might meet in the summer to consider the final campaign case study. Council discussion focused on the tension between having goals with immediate appeal versus the very real need to address facility issues and to build a rainy day fund.

TRANSITION TEAM: Mike Lynett reports plans for a Monday 5:45 Mass of thanksgiving for service and return to health for Father Laurin, and later on, a party for Father Laurin if that fits in with Father Laurin's plans. A welcoming party for Fathers Dennis and Robert is in the planning stages, perhaps in coordination with a possible installation by the Archbishop.

YEAR END REVIEW: Positive trends include hospitalities coordinated now by a variety of groups, the audit, website progress, and considering *A People Adrift*. There were also several challenges that were met, including boiler problems, heavy snow, the theft, and the sooner-than-expected transition in pastor leadership. These multiple challenges could spark a sense of momentum and forward movement in parish life. A concern is the delay in the Time & Talent Forms and how to dovetail the annual stewardship campaign with the capital campaign. For a new book for the PC to read this year, Father Robert suggests the author Father Tom Sweester.

DISCUSSION OF PARTICIPATION COORDINATOR: Greg Kelsch is commended for his high and effective contributions in recent months, especially having worked in the context of great change and some shortages in staffing. Particular accomplishments include reviving hospitalities, reviving our St. Vincent de Paul chapter, and being actively present and visible in a wide variety of parish endeavors. The Council reviewed Greg's description of the last few months with the original job description and then brainstormed about how to support Greg being even more effective. One specific idea is for him to be better introduced to the parish, e.g. as Father Robert suggests by being invited to speak at a Mass after Communion. The

Council would also like to see more emphasis on welcoming and drawing in new parish members. Several members of the original committee expressed the hope that Gregg's role could keep moving towards a focus on attracting and gathering information about various parish needs and then tapping and coordinating volunteers to meet those needs, i.e. to become in some sense a clearing house for matching parish needs with volunteer involvement. The original committee will further consider this issue and if necessary meet again. The Council also noted the need for direction from Fathers Dennis and Robert about who is responsible for what as we shift out of this transitional period. Mike L will draft a letter to Father Dennis, to whom Gregg reports, about PC insights into the current state of the position.

DISCUSSION OF RECENT LITURGIES: The Council identified the need to have a specific person(s) accountable for the various aspects of preparing the church for Mass, including routine checklists to ensure that everything is running smoothly plus specific procedures to follow when there is a glitch, e.g. having no priest. These procedures are protective especially when there is a guest presider. Plus, it is hoped that guest presiders will be careful to introduce themselves at each Mass. In recent weeks there have been several painful whoops in our services, including missing acolytes, some reader errors, an absent priest, and, painfully, insufficient Host and wine last week. Father Robert will ask Father Dennis for responsibility to address these issues thoroughly and reliably, starting by working with the staff and then reporting back to the Parish Council.

2008-09 LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS: The attached updated roster shows liaison assignments for the coming year, including the new assignments to staff meetings and to the website. Pam R. will arrange to have these assignments (but not phone numbers) published in the bulletin with a request that committee chairs call their liaison counterpart.

2008-2008 GOALS: At the next PC meeting, the PC will set formal goals for the coming year which will appear in each meeting agenda. A draft list of goals to consider include: 1.) Monitor the transition to the new pastor model, 2.) Reconstitute an effective Stewardship Committee, 3.) Monitor progress of the FIOF Campaign 4.) Monitor Progress towards increasing Mass attendance and volunteer participation.

COMMITTEE LIAISON UPDATES: *None* except that there are multiple buildings and grounds projects underway at the moment, including repair of the front planter.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Father Robert asked the Council "to involve me in as many activities as possible" so that he can become deeply involved in our parish life and in particular to help facilitate and organize wherever appropriate in order to "build the Body of Christ".

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Hogan