

PASTORAL STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Minutes for the PSC Meeting on April 11, 2007

7:00 PM at Our Lady of the Rosary Church

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Present: Susan Adams (SAG Site Committee), HelenBaumann (STA Site Committee), Laura Chiu (OLR Site Committee), Tom Jaworowski (Human Concerns Committee), Jerry Lucha (Catechetical Board, Rob Manfrey (Youth Ministry Board), Micky Martin (Liturgy Board), Bud McKenna (Facilities Committee), Fr. Tony Medina (Parochial Vicar), Joan Myen (Community Life Board), Marguerite Purcell (Adult Spiritual Development), Jesse Ruezga (Hispanic Leadership Team), Mary Sullivan (Communications Committee)

Absent: Fr. George Aranha (Pastor), Joe Passarello (Finance Committee), Chuck Tully (Parish Adminisrator)

Guests: ???

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

A procedure for publicizing each ministries' quarterly report was distributed. This procedure will facilitate the availability of these reports on the parish website and also at the three churches in the parish.

The Santa Clara Country Council of Churches welcomed STA Parish as its newest member during its annual meeting. Some important activities of the SCCCC this past year were described.

A walk through inspection of the Thomas House will be conducted on Friday, April 13th. Some possible uses of the Thomas House for parish functions and community building were presented.

The parish has achieved 138% of its assigned goal in the Diocesan Endowment and Capital Campaign. The Campaign will conclude in mid-April in our parish.

The Burning Bush session for March is entitled. 'The Iraq War: A Catholic

Response'. Fr. Rubio will partner a presentation on Islam on Monday, April 23rd.

The representatives of the Community Life Board and the Liturgy Board presented both oral and written reports on the activities of their ministries during the past three months. The written reports appear as Attachments 1 and 2.

A subcommittee has been formed to produce a final version of the Mission Statement for the parish. This statement should be available to the parish by Pentacost Sunday.

Selection of new representatives from the ministries to the PSC to replace those representatives who have served two or more years should take place before the May PSC meeting. A Nominating Committee to identify candidates for the Executive Offices of the PSC will make their choices known by June.

The new members and officers of the PSC will assume their duties at the June meeting of the PSC. The annual PSC retreat is scheduled for June 16th.

Prologue

The meeting was called to order by Bud, the Chairman, at 7:07 PM. Micky distributed a prayer for the opening of the meeting and led the group in its recitation. Fr. George will prepare the opening prayer for the May meeting to illustrate the way this prayer should relate to the function and decisions of the Pastoral Stewardship Council. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as written.

Announcements & Comments from the Council & the Floor

Mary Sullivan distributed the procedure to be followed for publicizing each ministries' quarterly report. When this procedure is followed, the quarterly report will be available on the parish website and also in the notebook of the PSC minutes which are kept at each of the three worship sites. An edited version of the ministry quarterly report will also be published in the weekly bulletin shortly after its receipt by the Communications Committee.

Tom gave a brief description of the annual meeting of the Santa Clara County Council of Churches, which was held on Sunday, March 25th. STA Parish was welcomed as the newest member of the SCCCC at the meeting. Along with some methods of modern technology which can be used to publish the activities of this group, one of the members described her participation in a rally for peace held near the White House in Washington, D.C. in February.

Helen announced that a walk-through inspection of the Thomas House will oc-

cur on Friday, April 13th at 9:30 A.M. by the STA Site Committee and relevant parties such as contractors. Any member of the PSC can participate in this inspection tour.

Helen outlined some potential uses of the Thomas House for parish functions if it becomes available for parish use. She pointed out that 'old people' (those over 60 years of age) constitute the majority of the congregations at some of the Sunday Masses and need special consideration by the parish. She noted the concept of 'Aging in Place' that has been the subject of news articles written locally and nationally. It was suggested that a member of the Avenidas Staff could be invited to talk to the PSC about this issue.

Marguerite brought up the matter of archiving the records of the PSC as part of the responsibilities of the Communications Committee. Actually, this might be the duty of an Archivist for the parish. Some information about the building of STA Church at the turn of the 20th century is available in the historical records of Palo Alto. Mary might wish to seek the advice of the Museum of American History in Palo Alto on this matter.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Fr. George is on vacation; therefore Fr. Tony provided information about recent administrative matters. He gave an update on the Diocesan Endowment and Capital Campaign within our parish. As of March 25th the STA parish has reached 138% of its goal for this campaign! This campaign will be completed on the weekend of April 14th and 15th at all the Masses.

The role of the PSC members was emphasized. Each ministry representative to the PSC has a dual responsibility: To report the activities of the ministry to the PSC and also to inform the members of the ministry of the actions and discussions of the PSC which are pertinent to this particular ministry.

Fr. George intends to present 'Reflections for Prayer' at the PSC meeting in May. The topic for the Burning Bush session in April is 'The Iraq War: A Catholic Response' Fr. Rubio and _____ will conduct a class entitled 'Islam 101' on Monday evening, April 23rd.

The amount of funds that will be returned to the parish from the Capital Campaign will be determined when all the pledges have been tallied. It is assumed that there will be a yearly distribution from the San Jose Diocese to the parish based upon the total amount the Diocese receives from the parishioners for that year.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Community Life Board

Joan acknowledged that the Funeral Committee is in dire need of more members. She noted that eight people are required to provide a funeral reception adequately. She asked that the 'Time and Talent' sheets be made available to the ministries.

Joan also reviewed the activities of Community Life which were detailed in the written report. These included organizing the Newcomer's Reception on February 11th and the reception after the Easter Vigil for the new members of the Church as well as assisting in the St. Patrick's Day dinner in March and the Seder Dinner during Holy Week. Other groups described in the written report were the 'Widows and Widowers', 'Age of Aquinas', and 'Transitions'. The written report is included in these minutes as Attachment 1.

Liturgy Board

Micky presented the oral and the written report of the activities of the Liturgy Board. She mentioned that the 'Prayers of the Faithful' are rotated among the sites to insure adequate representation of the three sites. Micky also emphasized the need for a Liturgy Coordinator. Linda Gargiulo gave the Liturgy Board lots of help when she had this responsibility. The search for a Liturgy Coordinator will intensify as the Spring season unfolds.

Some positive and some negative aspects of bilingual liturgies were noted. Certainly a bilingual liturgy is more meaningful if a considerable part of the congregation can only participate in either English or Spanish. On the other hand, having the celebrant repeat each paragraph of his homily in the other language consecutively makes it difficult for a listener to absorb the message as a unified entity. Perhaps it would be more effective if the entire homily were given in one language before beginning the same entire homily in the other language.

Micky provided a long list of items that the Liturgy Board discussed and dealt with during the past three months. Her written report may be viewed in Attachment 2 of these minutes.

Old Business

Ushers

Jesse informed the PSC of a problem of lack of Ushers in seating people during the Christmas, New Year's, and Easter bilingual Masses. The problem has

been ameliorated by better communication with the volunteers.

Mission Statement

The Mission Statement for the parish has been re-examined. A new sub-committee consisting of Fr. George, Helen, Marguerite, Micky, and Susan has been formed to expedite a final action on this issue. The hope is to have the Mission Statement produced by this group by Pentacost for submission to the parish members for their consideration.

New Business

Bud distributed a chart showing the tenure of ministry representatives to the PSC. Seven ministries should consider selecting a new representative to the PSC: Community Life, Adult Spiritual Development, STA Site Committee, OLR Site Committee, Human Concerns Committee, and Hispanic Leadership. The new representatives of these seven ministries should be selected by the membership of the ministries before the May meeting of the PSC. While mandatory retirement of representatives serving two or more years is not required, the effort should be made to provide new blood, fresh ideas, and bountiful energy to the PSC by the selection of new representatives.

The Nominating Committee to identify candidates for the Executive Committee (i.e., the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and the Secretary) should make their choices known to the PSC before the June meeting. The PSC will then vote to select the three members of the Executive Committee at the June meeting for an upcoming 12-month term. The new ministry representative to the PSC and the Executive Committee will take their offices/posts at the June PSC meeting.

The Retreat for the PSC is tentatively scheduled for the third Saturday in June, June 16th, to be held at the Presentation Site of the Daughters of Charity in Los Altos or the Cursillo Site. Among the topics for the retreat are these: A Reflection on the past year and a Vision for the upcoming year with respect to the function and the goals of the PSC.

Closure

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 13, at 7:00 PM at OLR. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M. (Earlier than usual)

ACTION ITEMS

1. Each representative of a ministry which should consider the selection of a new representative to the PSC will inform the membership of his or her ministry that a new representative to the PSC is desirable.
2. The Nominating Committee to select candidates for the Executive Board will announce their selections before the June PSC meeting
3. The Thomas House Task Force will present its report on the issues relating to reclaiming the Thomas House for parish functions.
4. The following ministries will present their quarterly reports at the May meeting: The STA Site Committee, the OLR Site Committee, and the Youth Ministry Board.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Life Board Quarterly Report
2. Liturgy Board Quarterly Report