

PASTORAL STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Minutes for the PSC Meeting on November 10, 2010

7 PM Our Lady of the Rosary

Council Members:

Adult Spirituality-absent	Human Concerns-Walt Lundin
Business Manager-Chuck Tully	Liturgy-Kay Williams
Catechetical Board-absent	OLR Site-Laura Chiu
Community Life-Bev Wade	Pastor-Father Matt
Communications-Nichole Khan	Parochial Vicar-absent
Facilities-Jim McLaughlin	SAG Site-Kathleen Hart
Finance-Mary Martinson	STA Site-Lorraine Dabney
Hispanic Leadership-Griselda Morales	Youth Board-KarenRecinto

Absent: Yvette Bovee, June Harmon, Father Thierry

Guests: Micky Martin

Prologue

Kay called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Finance led the Faith Sharing with the St. Francis of Assisi Peace Prayer. Father Matt added that understanding others, and having an open heart, is such an important virtue. Bev reminded us to keep Fr. Thierry in our prayers and thoughts while he struggles with a paralyzed vocal cord. The agenda was approved as drafted. The minutes were approved as amended.

Brief Announcements from PSC Members / Guests

Laura announced that there will be additional photo sessions next week at OLR, and greeters are needed.

Micky announced that the food drive is in process, as well as the Table of Remembrance.

CLERGY REPORT

Father Matt asked us to pray for Father Thierry and his voice (or lack thereof). Deacon Daniel will substitute as needed.

- In regards to Father Franklin, the immigration process is slow and steady. He had hoped to have him back by Advent, but realistically he won't be back until the New Year. Having Daniel is a blessing.
- The Byzantine Community will have their opening liturgy on November 21, 2010. Fr. Matt noted that being generous requires sacrifice, but thinks we will benefit from having the community here. He is grateful to Nora Lundin and the SAG Site who made this all happen. There will be an announcement about the Byzantine Community in the bulletin.
- He expressed deep gratitude to everyone who made the Installation Mass a success. He thought it was a hope filled and community filled event. He noted that the Bishop was in fine form, and it was a wonderful celebration.
- October mass count is up slightly from 2009. 2007 looked to be the peak year. There has been a growth decline in the Hispanic Mass, and the biggest decline is the 5 PM mass (almost 50% decline). STA 10:30 AM also dropped. Gregorian is steady. The study shouldn't be considered "scientifically accurate". Fr. Matt invited any comments. Bev noted that Father Tony was really popular, and his leaving may be the reason for the drop at the Hispanic Mass. Micky asked if we are following the national trend, and Fr. Matt said he would know after the upcoming Deanery Meeting.
- Father Matt stressed the need for a better Parish Calendar, with all events recorded in one place. There have been some conflicts with dates for upcoming events that could have been avoided (e.g. the St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be held after St. P's Day, etc.). Fr. Matt said Holy Family schedules things a year in advance. The staff will put together a subcommittee to create a better calendar.
- Many parishes have online giving. It gives people another way to donate. We will begin advertising / marketing for online donations in the spring.
- He had a summary meeting with Saint Vincent de Paul. We were able to disperse \$50,000 to people who come to our door for help. Four very dedicated people are there day in and day out serving the least of our brothers and sisters, and he wants to give them credit.
- ADA-We have received \$20,000 in rebate. Rooted in Faith rebates \$150,000. We went over our goal.

SCHEDULED REPORTS

Community Life

Bev gave the Community Life scheduled report. Community Life builds community with activities that appeal to a wide range of people. Highlights:

- The annual Come Smell the Roses garden party took place May 16, 2010. It is an opportunity for the entire Parish to gather and enjoy the Pastoral Gardens.
- It was a sad day on June 6th when we said good-bye to Father George at the Farewell Father George gathering. We assembled at SESS Auditorium to thank Fr. George and send him on to Saint Clare's Parish with our blessings.
- They discussed ways of improving / changing the Annual Picnic. Attendance was down at this year's picnic. The numbers are always better at OLR, so perhaps we should keep it at OLR every year.
- Bev considers the Installation Mass Reception their best yet! It was a wonderful reception, and marked a good beginning.
- 14 new Cookie Crew members signed on during Time and Talent.
- Upcoming events include Deacon Bunje's Retirement party.

Finance

We are pretty much close to budget, and doing well for the first three months. Some highlights from the report:

- Capital Campaign-We're in 50% rebate mode, and should make 60%.
- Total expenses equaled \$352, 948, and the budget was \$357, 908.
- Utilities are lower. Some theories as to why are maybe the warmer weather we've been having, and the Green Committee working to keep the doors closed.
- Bright Lights Program with Palo Alto-we've changed the bulbs and that is a savings of about \$4,000, a payback we'll see in about a year.

There was some discussion amongst the PSC about the OLR stoves and the pilot lights. Unfortunately, the stoves cannot be retrofitted.

Facilities

Jim complimented the efforts of Time and Talent because the Facilities committee received 5 new members! They now have a 12 member committee. So, T & T worked for them.

- Biggest Achievement: Finally have the Thomas House project under way! Yes there are problems, namely with asbestos, but it is being dealt with and they will soon have a timeline.

- The AT & T tower is under study by the City of Palo Alto, who have strict standards, and by the Building and Maintenance committee. The surrounding neighborhood is involved and concerned. We are encouraging AT & T to have meetings for the neighbors. The major problem is that the location of the electronic equipment is near Fr. Thierry's room, and the hum may be disturbing.
- The International School has informally asked to use the Dermody Center for Junior High. We've asked them for a formal declaration of their wants, but have not yet received anything. This could be a monetary advantage, and may lock the school into a broader commitment. The Finance committee will review the letter and then take it to the Site Committee.

Father Matt added a few comments in regard to the AT&T Tower. He pointed out that the only advantage is a financial one. Secondly, if the City of Palo Alto says no, then it is done. We are not going to fight it.

OLD BUSINESS

THOMAS HOUSE: Several areas of the house were misdiagnosed for asbestos. There will be a second round of testing. But, the project is moving forward. STA hospitality was moved to the carport, so a new light with a motion sensor was installed there.

ADULT SPIRITUALITY: So far, 83 tickets have been sold for the Michael Reardon Sound and Light Production of the Gospel of Luke.

COMMUNICATIONS: Nichole told us the directory is coming along well. Individuals / committees can submit pictures, but it is better to have the pictures taken. Please be sure to invite Roland to your next committee meeting so he can photograph the group as a whole. The Annual Report was well received; there were comments about cutting the distribution numbers a bit and promoting the online Annual Report. Micky Martin pointed out that it is nice to give newcomers an Annual Report, so we do need some. Kay reminded us we still need another editor for the report.

COMMUNITY LIFE: Father Matt mentioned that the staff wonders if the idea of the Parish Picnic is tired, and wondered if we need something new. Bev agreed that it could use a review.

TIME & TALENT: Walt gave a brief wrap-up of T & T. Raw numbers (of newly signed volunteers) are approaching 30, maybe more. He and Roland will meet to do more work on the figures. Kay added that there are some recommendations for possible adjustments for future T & T, such as targeting one ministry per month, or grouping ministries together and do once a quarter. Kay thanked the subcommittee who worked so hard on Time and Talent.

NEW BUSINESS

LITURGY: Both Christmas masses will be at 5 PM on Christmas Eve at OLR and SAG, and each site will have their own Pageant.

Posture of Assembly: During Eucharistic Prayer the assembly shall kneel. During Communion Procession the assembly will remain standing. There will be some catechesis on the matter, including an insert in the bulletin. On the first Sunday of Advent the presider will invite the assembly to kneel during Eucharistic Prayer.

All Parish Retreat: There most likely will NOT be an all parish retreat next year (2011). Some suggested we poll the parishioners to see if there is a need for a retreat.

PSC Review, Renew, Reflect: The executive committee is in the process of organizing the PSC / Staff Review, which will probably take place in May 2011.

NEXT MEETING ON DECEMBER 1, 2010, AT OLR due to the Holy Day of Obligation- Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary- on December 8. Please come early-6 PM- for SOUP!

Opening prayer and faith sharing: Facilities

Scheduled reports: Hispanic ministry, Seton School

Kathleen Hart, PSC Secretary