

St. Gerald Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes –Feb 22, 2007:

Present: Missy Arana, Dan Buck (Vice-President), Todd Banchor, Ruth Guthrie (President), Darlene Sheridan, Jim Svoboda, Becky Tometich, Kathy Valasek (Secretary), (Kathy Hanson, Recording Secretary)

Absent: Leo Kochanowicz,

Also Present: Dave Garland, Fr. Gary Ostrander, John Bolas

I. OPENING PRAYER

II. GUEST REPORTS:

Judy Haug / Paper Recycling Program: *See Mixed Paper Recycling program Feb 22, Attachment 1*

Judy described program for recycling program that involves putting dumpsters at one or both Church locations. St. Thomas Moore has this program and it's going well, and recently added a second dumpster. Place to put it on west church site was discussed to some degree, with no real obvious 'best place'. Having one at the school was approved by the PC members, and it was determined that we should see how it works & then discuss with maintenance before making a final decision about the West Church. Judy was commended on her efforts to better our school and earth and her willingness to lead this effort.

School Report: (Dave Garland) – *See Principals Report, Attachment 2*

Reviewed the report verbally; Add'l Comments: Eighth graders attended all –schools 8th grade mass at Cathedral this year. The grading system is to be active next school year. With the current numbers of kindergarden students registering, we may be referring children to St. Joan this coming year.

III. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Approved.

IV. PASTORS REPORT:

Father Gary wrote letters to both Fr. Gillick and The Vincentions this week to see if he can obtain commitments for them to be speakers at our 2008 and 2009 missions. See VII, B for discussion regarding APC.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Stewardship (Todd Banchor) - *No written report this month*

Stewardship Activity: Committee members and volunteers called on the 'newer' families who had registered before the welcoming meetings started, but had not responded to the stewardship campaign (~9mo-2.5yrs registered.)

B. Total Education Committee (Missy Arana) – *See Notes from School Advisory 2/19/07, Attachment 3*
Additional discussion

1. As part of the review of St Gerald School policies with archdiocesan policies, some areas were found that are in the archdiocesan policies but not reflected in our policies.
2. Tom Valasek and others are working on Adult Education opportunities to be available while their children/teens are in CCD classes, including offering Coffee and Spiritual Growth.
3. Consideration is being given to another bible study besides the Monday night group.

C. Evangelization (Fr. Gary) - *No Committee Report this Month*

1. RCIA is proceeding: have approximately 15 attending.
2. Welcome Back: Had about 5 or 6. Father re-iterated that many who 'come back' do so through confession.

D. Family Life Committee (Dan Buck) – *See St. Gerald Pro-Life Committee meetings 2/6/07, Attachment 4*

Additional Discussion: Short-term goals might be to educate the members through meetings/information dissemination and tours, educate the congregation in snippets for now. Long-term goals might be to do our

own events with speakers or internal activities/speakers. It was suggested that some of these could be incorporated with Adult Ed, Men's clubs and Mom's group for further effectiveness. Michelle is the current leader. Mary Ann is very busy, but will hopefully be able to participate as a member for now and keep in touch. Father recommended that it be kept a 'whole life issue' and not just about abortion. Dan said that the discussions so far have included a wide range/breadth of the issue. Some activities discussed included a possible mothers day activity as well as KVSS's 10 pro-life related activities on their website.

- E. Finance (Jim Svoboda) – See Attachment 5, Finance Committee Report for 1/26/07 meeting, Financial report for 12/06 and Profit & Loss from 1/07:
Next meeting will be financial review/budget review process. No additional comments.
- F. Human Needs Committee (Darlene Sheridan) – No Written Report this month
1. See activities of Library under Total Education /Adult Ed.
 2. Shelters: Patty N had suggestions for how to coordinate helpers/ what type of coordination/ person might be needed to do this. She does not want to be a coordinator for all activities but suggested Beck Koenig to help with this coordination/leadership position. Becky is evidently interested in doing this coordination including coordinating somewhat the efforts of volunteer groups working with Sienna Francis, Day House, etc... Darlene is going to coordinate with Becky.
 3. One idea for doing humanitarian aid was received involving weekly donations of different items related to scripture. This is being passed onto the Shelter committee/Becky to see if this is something she or anyone in her group thinks would be a good idea and wants to lead.
 4. Childcare on Sunday mornings has only had one or two children the past several weeks. It was discussed that if this is not utilized more often, consideration should be given to stopping the service/volunteer efforts.
- G. Liturgy (Becky Tometich) – See Attachment 6, Liturgy Committee Meeting 2/21/07
Additional Discussion: This last meeting involved brainstorming some educational opportunities for committee members. No real Liturgy Committee Head is needed at this time, as cooperation in the group is good. Mary Clare is coordinating liturgies at this time.
- H. Maintenance (Leo Kochanowicz) - No Committee Report this Month
- I. Social Committee (Kathy Valasek) – See Attachment 7, Social Committee Meeting Feb 22nd
No additional discussion

V. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Welcome Booklet: Passed copies out to PC members. All agreed it was very nice to have the updated/additional information in the booklet and were thankful for Sheryl and Father Gary's work on it. It was reminded that this is a 'living document' so parish council members might want to keep things updated within their areas of responsibility.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

1. FBI Child ID program: Reviewed and decided that since it is available in the community regularly, we do not need to make a special offering of this program, but can publicize community events that include this service as possible, to help assure our families are aware of this program.
2. Catholic Relief Services/ Fair Trade Coffee –Kathy Valasek reviewed program for disadvantaged coffee growers that would include us buying coffee from this program verses other coffee or offering this for sale. It was decided that the price of this coffee is so expensive that we could not suggest buying it for our church, but this could be offered for a fundraiser if groups are looking for one.
3. Parish Council Elections: Kathy Valasek, Ruth Guthrie and Todd Banchor will be retiring from their elected positions. It was decided that each current PC member should attempt to ask 2 people to consider

being on the Parish Council. It was thought that people who ran previously have been contacted recently will re-apply as they see fit.

VII. PRESIDENT/ VP BUSINESS: (Ruth Guthrie, President and Dan Buck, Vice-President)

Goals 2006-2007/Retreat:

#3 - CCD Program Board / Enhancement with parent program. Father requested involvement of a priest or deacon and to keep things public. This is being implemented now. Mike Witt has been working on finding good candidates for this board and Tom will be working with Mike to assure this keeps moving.

#12 – Communication: To continue to develop the communication enhancements we had worked on last year; including mission/vision statement publicity. Spirit Link working into budget, history book, photo book plus web site updates are all good examples of this happening this year. Additionally, the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate is doing surveys as to what Catholic churches do in general. This can be an additional source of ideas and we are communicating through surveys with them as to what we do.

#13 – Assessing Committees; Includes knowledge of activities and committees and addressing stagnant committees or other opportunities/limiting factors. Some of this is being completed with the review/upgrade of committee charts. Much of this has been done with the Committee / subcommittee definition and discussion, although still some work needed on defining/refining/ helping any stagnant committees.

#17 – Library: develop the library to be utilized more as it is a great asset for parishioners that is not utilized as much as it could be. This will be handled under the Total Ed Committee, but the PC wants to keep it as a goal as well. Darlene will meet with them to keep things moving.

#25 – PC members to attend mass on day of or close to meeting day.

#30 – Vocations Committee: Strategize and implement action to assure there are local opportunities to understand, encourage, and invite religious vocations. This has been activated. Tom started group with 11-14 interested in helping.

A. Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (APC) – Ruth Guthrie’s term as St. Gerald’s delegate expires in 2007 if she does not elect to continue. She opened up the position to consideration of the President Elect or other interested delegates. Dan Buck is interested in filling this role from June ‘07-’09 and it was approved that he be the next delegate to the APC for St. Gerald. April 13-14 is general assembly which one or both of them will attend.

B. Next meetings: March 8, 2007

C. CLOSING PRAYER / Adjournment