

Pastoral Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes-Tuesday February 21, 2006

Attendees: Pat Downing, Enrique Gaona, Deacon Allen, Sidney Vand, Deacon David, Mark Fair, Sonia Schuetze, Paula McLaughlin, and Teresa Clark.

Meeting began at 7:30 pm in SVDP office break room.

Welcome:

Deacon Allen welcomed the Council and led us in opening prayer.

Review of Norms:

Terms:

Some discussions on the terms of the Council—should there be an overlap or are three meetings with the out going Council sufficient to provide continuity for the Council. The last Council changed the Norms to stipulate that the discernment process take place in October 2008 and have overlapping meetings in November, December, and January then have the new Council take over in February 2009.

Purpose:

Discussions and questions were brought up regarding the Council's role in the start/maintenance of an organization so that the proper procedures are followed by all groups/ministries. The last Council approved a document to encompass this task. Deacon Allen stated that the next step would be for the Stewardship Council to send this document out along with a letter. Neva Schmelzer (Stewardship Leader) has some questions for the Council and the meeting with her has not been completed.

Action Item: Deacon Allen will send the group the latest copy of the Ministry and Organization Guidelines for St. Vincent de Paul for review and discussion for the next meeting.

Council Body:

The following members were appointed by consensus:

Chairperson – Paula McLaughlin

Co-Chairperson – Mark Fair

Scribe – Sonia Schuetze

Discussion on being more of a visible presence took place. Beginning with the minutes posted in the notebook, dining room and website along with a picture of the Council and contact information. Also, the possibility of forming “commissions” so that the Council could be more aware of parish activities was discussed. This could be done by members attending various parish organization/ministry meetings periodically.

Action Item: Sonia will post the pictures, minutes and contact information on the web site and the dining room bulletin board.

Meeting Procedures:

The new council would like to change the meetings to the third Tuesday of each month. The group thought that posting the agenda was a good idea—on the web site as well as in the dining room.

Items:

Council members agreed that guests should be put on the agenda at the beginning of the meeting and allowed a limited time to speak (10 minutes).

Also there was a brief discussion about the meeting being open but the guest(s) do not participate in the meeting and are there to observe only.

**Action Item: All members to review the Norms and provide input via Word to Mark before the next meeting
Mark to send an e-mail on how to track changes in Word.**

Vision Statement:

This Vision statement would define the long-term direction of the parish. One of the examples given by Deacon Allen was the issue of space as the parish continues to grow.

Action Item: Deacon Allen to provide the group with a copy of the Vision Statement.

Retreat:

Will be held this weekend (2/24 & 2/25) at Cedarbrake beginning Friday night (7pm 1st session) and ending Saturday afternoon. Sister Teresa George will be leading the retreat.

Bring a snack to share for Friday evening.

Breakfast, lunch, linens and towels provided.

Bring toiletries, washcloth & TP.

Enrique passed out the directions.

Other:

Deacon Allen informed the group about the talk that Bishop Aymond will be giving at St. Thomas More on March 7th on Forgiveness and Healing. There is also another session on March 22nd at St. Mary's.

The meeting ended with a closing prayer lead by Deacon David.

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be held Tuesday March 21st at 7:30pm.

Respectively submitted by
Sonia Schuetze
Scribe