

**Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, June 19, 2007**

**Attendees:** Mark Fair, Deacon David Boren, Pat Downing, Michelle De la Cruz, Sonia Schuetze and Teresa Clark.

**Visitor:** Doug Raymond

The meeting started in P-1 at 7:40pm.

**Opening:** Mark opened with the daily gospel reading, and then the group reflected on the reading.

**Ministry Update:**

Doug Raymond came to the meeting representing *Habitat for Humanity*. Doug moved to Texas from New York, where he was the lead minister for HFH at St. Thomas More Parish for several years, and now would like to start a ministry at SVDP. The goal of STM was to build one house per year, yet they quickly realized the real benefit of building community. The typical project schedule was 12 months of planning to 10 weeks of building, with the building occurring during cooler months if possible. Bishop Aymond supports 50% of the build (\$30,000) and each parish ministry coordinator works within their parish to raise the remaining \$30,000. Typically they could expect annual funds of \$3,000 from the Community Ministry fund of STM, and then members would complete the balance of funding and skills. Doug stated perhaps their biggest challenge is currently that land availability is scarce, new HFH homes are now in Round Rock and Manor, since there are no more lots in Austin.

For getting started at SVDP, HFH would be part of the Stewardship educational project in October, followed by the opportunity to select this ministry on the commitment card. (We would need to actively incorporate this ministry into the process, since it will not be included in the upcoming parish directory). Doug offered to prepare a flyer, etc. with contact and other info. Suggestions were made to appeal to the Parish Tithe, Knights of Columbus, Social Ministry budget, Ladies' Club, and/or Festival income as possible funding sources. We have until Jan/Feb to complete funding for the 2008 build, and Doug plans to request somewhere between \$3,000-5,000 from SVDP. There was also a suggestion of direct invitations to those from our parish database involved in residential building "trades" to join this ministry and/or provide material/labor for the project. (On a side note, the STM Habitat for Humanity ministry also had a maintenance ministry to work on maintenance around STM in between builds.)

**Action Item:** Doug will get the ministry packet so HFH can get on the commitment card.

**Update on Ministry Guidelines:**

The discussion continued on tying the chart closer to the objectives/goals. Commitment cards, etc. are being driven by the directory. The consensus is that the Directory should drive all other documents (i.e. the Stewardship Diagram), yet we all agree it is a challenge to categorize each ministry since many fit into several goals. Now that we have a vision statement, our plan is to align the documents and purge the inactive documents. It was also suggested to ask each ministry where they think they fit into the goals/objectives.

Mark reported that the Finance Council presentation was well received. Mark shared our marked up version of goals so they would have a template to use. We briefly discussed how the Liturgy Committee interpreted the challenge to map their goals to the Vision Statement goals.

**Action Item:** PC members will send Mark their input for ministry categories. Mark will look at mapping the M/G categories to the Mission/Vision statements, and will send Teresa the Power-point presentation for fine-tuning after plugging in edits from PC members.

**Parish Website – Next Steps:**

Pat reported that after discussion and deliberation, our current web design team has chosen to no longer manage the website. It was suggested that Deacon David contact the diocesan web designer to schedule a meeting and find out what our costs would be for a new web design and a new hosting/domain. (Look at [www.utcatholic.org](http://www.utcatholic.org) to see sample of his work.) This particular web designer is able to offer great affordability due to his technique of “self-service” web site updating. We revisited the idea to have a “tech group” to determine what we currently have, what works and doesn’t work, that will bring their suggestions Pastoral Council (to buffer and consolidate new ideas). It was suggested that the pastor would begin appointing people to the committee when we start to be fed names, so we need to seek people with broad experience and goals (i.e., put together list of names based on entire parish, not the same ones who are called upon all the time.)

**Action Items:** PC will make the recommendation to Father Danny to begin a Technology Advisory Committee. Pat and Mark will send sample job titles to Deacon David to search the parish database for those to invite to the Committee. Deacon David will see about getting a message to the ministry heads regarding the web site transition.

**Open Topics:**

Mark will attend the Newcomer’s dinner this Saturday, and will contact Barb Einecker. We will pass around the opportunity to attend the dinners. Future dates of dinners are Sep 15<sup>th</sup> and Nov 17<sup>th</sup>.

Tri-Council Retreat will be held February 15-16, 2008 at Cedar Brake.

To welcome Fr. Brion we should plan for cake and punch. Teresa will plan arrangements for this.

Next meeting date: Tuesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, following the 6:30pm Mass, and will be a social gathering with spouses. We hope Fr. Brion will be able to join us for this.

Next regular meeting will be held August 21, 2007 at 7:30pm in P-1.

Closing Prayer led by Deacon David.

Respectfully submitted by Teresa Clark.