

**ST. THOMAS MORE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES – June 13, 2012**

PRESENT: Fr. Mike Ratajczak, Ron Briseno, Doug D'Agrosa, Chris Smith, Paul Ibbetson, Mike Nichols, Jane Gladden, Flora Fallone, Andrea Sweeney, Jody Cadieux

NOT PRESENT: Bill Ipsen, Valerie Thompson, Brian Leahey, Vlad Bolsakov

CALL TO ORDER: By Ron Briseno at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Andrea Sweeney

ROLE CALL

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 11, 2012 MEETING MINUTES: Approved in January as posted on the website.

OLD BUSINESS

Fr. Mike: **UPDATE ON SEARCH FOR NEW YOUTH ADVOCATE**
Marcus Cabrera was hired as the full time Youth Advocate for the Parish; he started on June 1. There were 40 applicants from across the country and approximately half were interviewed. Marcus has a degree in Theology with a minor in Psychology and Philosophy from University of San Diego. He was introduced in Fr. Mike's Pastor's Column the weekend of June 10.

NEW BUSINESS

Welcome to Jane Gladden, Chairperson for the Publicity/Public Relations Committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Flora: **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**
To date 350 families have pledged a total of \$45,107 (\$128 avg.) toward the 2012 assessment of \$48,000. \$30,000 has been collected so far. A mailing will be going out to target those who have given in the past and have not yet done so this time. The letter is scheduled to go out at week's end or week of June 18th.

Andrea/Mike **SCRIP**
Andrea and Mike have been overseeing the scrip program for approximately 6 months. 1st Quarter's monthly average was about \$20,000. The Scrip committee has written two \$5,000 checks toward the building fund in January and May respectively. There was discussion about Mike and/or Andrea making a pulpit announcement about being able to make larger scrip purchases for home improvement, remodels, etc. Additional themes discussed could be purchasing scrip for vacation (hotels, cruises, car rentals) and Back to School, as well as putting together a suggested scrip package for Things to do in San Diego.

Fr. Mike: **NEW CONSTRUCTION**
Things are moving along well but a slower than anticipated pace. Fr. Mike met with Renzo Zecchetto and Robert Habiger on June 12 and the final decisions have been made as to which windows will be architectural art glass. All of the artists have been selected and they are beginning work. Everything from the Altar to the Ambo will be original. John Nava has been selected to create a St. Thomas More tapestry that will be 10' X 20'. John Nava is the artist who created the tapestries in the Los Angeles Cathedral.

Jane: **PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS**
A press release for the St. Thomas More 1st Annual Gala was published in the Southern Cross. Vacation Bible School is in July and press releases are being sent to the Southern Cross, Good News, etc. and online on Interfaith Community Services. It was suggested Jane attend the Pastoral Council meeting. It was also suggested that Jane let people know there are press release forms and Tower newsletter article submission forms available to everyone.

Jody : **MEMBERSHIP**
(for Valerie) The next New Member Reception is scheduled for Sunday, September 30, 2012. The committee will meet before that date and make plans, as usual.

Jody: **VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM**
(for Vlad) A pulpit announcement is scheduled for the last weekend of June. All four outstanding donations have sold between March 2012 to present. We do not know how much we will receive from the sales until Cars for Causes gets the donations processed. Since the inception of this program we have raised just over \$25,467.

Chris: **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**
(for Bill) Cards were mailed earlier in the week for those who did not commit to Phase 2.1. There have already been responses as a result. Phase 2.1 has a total of \$445,632 in pledges, we need just over \$54,000 to reach our goal. The Women's Guild recently presented a check for \$18,000 towards the building fund . They have given St. Thomas More \$110,000 since 2005, when "Our Journey into the Future" campaigns began!

Chris: **STEWARDSHIP**
The 1st Annual Gala was a huge success...we made our goal of \$60,000! Highlights: Sponsorships were higher this year...\$22,350. The live auction brought in \$16,350. \$3,000 was made on dinner after expenses, \$3,300 on the Champagne Diamond raffle, \$2,500 on the bar, \$3,750 on the raffle. We are anticipating making \$2,500 on the wine tasting party and possibly \$5,000 on the scotch tasting party. The Pastor's Excursion is scheduled for Sunday, August 26 from 1:30 - 6:00 p.m. There are currently 50 people signed up; if we reach our goal of 100, the Parish would net \$12,500. \$125 of the \$250 per person cost is tax deductible. We are encouraging people to attend and letting them know they can make payments.

Chris: **PLANNED GIVING**
The Towers of Faith has added 4 new members year to date which brings the number to almost 50 households. The Towers of Faith members are those who remember STM through estate planning. Three estates are currently being settled. We have received \$160,000 since its inception in 2005. There was discussion about having recognition for the Towers of Faith members in the Meditation Garden.

Chris:

WELCOME MINISTRY

The Welcome Ministry is looking for new ministers. We anticipate an increase in need with Faith Formation sign ups and Vacation Bible School in July. Please let Chris know if you know anyone who may be interested. When a potential new family fills out a blue card the goal is to contact to welcome them within a week. At that time a mutually agreeable time to meet them with their Welcome Packet (which includes registration forms) can be set up.

NEW IDEAS/BRAINSTORMING

Restaurant FUNdraising. The plan is to have these events two times per month for now to see what the response is. Some upcoming events this summer: Boomers is allowing us to have a reduced price on a wristband for \$15 and \$5 will come back to STM. Legoland/SeaLife has agreed to give us discounted tickets to sell. K-1 Speed...details to follow. Vista Entertainment Center...details to follow.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Doug:

PASTORAL COUNCIL

See minutes from May 9, 2012 meeting.

Paul:

FINANCE COUNCIL

The fiscal year ends June 30 and we will finish in the "red". We should know where we are by mid July. The "Did You Know" campaign continues to be on track. Offertory collections have increased from last year but are below what we budgeted for this year and expenses keep going up and the budget forecasting is having difficulties in catching the increases. The council will be working to plan better for the next fiscal year. ACH signups are growing.

PASTOR'S REPORT

The Ordination of Deacon John Fredette was Friday, May 25. There was a Dinner for invited guests on Saturday night and a reception on Sunday. Deacon John will oversee the Men's Ministry and will preside over Communion Services at Aegis, Emeritus Carlsbad and Oceanside, and Pacific Place. He will also be available for counseling and is conducting the Infant Baptism interviews.

CLOSING PRAYER: Glory Be.

NEXT MEETING: August 8, 2012 – 7:00pm. Opening Prayer- Jane Gladden