

ST. THOMAS MORE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES – October 17, 2012

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

NOT PRESENT: Valerie Thompson, Paul Ibbetson, Brian Leahey

CALL TO ORDER: By Ron Briseno at 7:05 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER: Mike Nichols

ROLE CALL

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 8, 2012 MEETING MINUTES: Approved in August, 2012 as posted on the website.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Flora: **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

To date 373 families have pledged a total of \$48,207.28 toward the 2012 Diocesan assessment of \$48,000. We have reached over 100% plus of our goal! We have collected \$46,387.28 to date.

Bill: **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

There will be a Parish wide update the 1st weekend of November which will be a general end of year update and will also discuss construction and the upcoming mortgage phase. 689 households pledged a total of \$502,800 and \$461,000 has been collected to date in Phase 2.1 of our Capital Campaign. Just over \$40,000 needs to still be collected. We are thrilled that our goal has been met!

Jody (for Valerie): **MEMBERSHIP**

The New Member Reception was held on Sunday, September 30, 2012. The reception was successful and had more than the usual number of attendees, about 100. Everyone enjoyed the food, the presentations, and the friendliness of the St. Thomas More Members. The membership committee worked hard and the results were excellent.

Fr. Mike: **NEW CONSTRUCTION - See Pastor's Report**

Jane: **PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Press releases went to the Deanery for TMIY, the Women's Guild Lunch, Engaging in Spirituality, the 2012 Treasures Flea Market and the Men's Retreat. The 2012 Treasures Flea Market was advertised in an additional 5 publications. The Men's Retreat was also advertised in the Southern Cross.

The North County Times was purchased by the Union Tribune. They require 2-4 weeks lead time, which is a challenge. The Southern Cross has been very supportive to publicize our events.

It was suggested Jane attend the next Pastoral Council meeting to introduce herself and to discuss the publicity form and lead times needed to get parish events published and. There was also a discussion about how other groups within the parish could possibly utilize publicity.

Mike / Andrea **SCRIP**

Third Quarter sales are up. Sales were \$14,436 in July, \$14,545 in August and \$16,609 in September. Of these amounts, Plaza sales were \$1,175 in July, \$2,259 in August and \$1,970 in September. Mike and Andrea would like to do another pulpit announcement promoting scrip. There is an announcement in the bulletin that explains if each family spent \$200/month in scrip for gas and groceries, it could earn up to \$7,500/month for the Church. There was discussion about putting an insert into the bulletin for a raffle. For every family that purchases \$200 in Scrip, their name would go into a drawing for \$100 in restaurant cards, provided by Ron Briseno. There would be 2 drawings, one each in November and December.

Several new parish members are starting to use scrip. More people are needed for plaza sales from November through the end of the year, especially with Black Friday and Christmas approaching. There was also a discussion about using a Square or Intuit product for processing credit cards on the plaza. The scrip table had a banner made by the quilting group that they will be using on the scrip table on the plaza to liven up the table.

A discussion came up about having the Scrip table at the 2013 Treasures Flea Market. It was suggested that Andrea and Mike talk directly to John Murphy.

Diana **VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM**

Vlad Bolsakov has stepped down as chair and Diana Diaz has agreed to take over as Chair for this ministry. We currently have four cars in process with Cars for Causes, Since the inception of this program we have raised over \$26,100. A motor home was recently sold, the proceeds will be coming to STM.

Chris: **PLANNED GIVING**

The Towers of Faith members are those who remember STM in their estate planning. Several estates are currently being settled. Two estates have designated the proceeds go directly towards the Operations Budget, and another two towards the Building Fund. \$70,000 from Towers of Faith has gone toward balancing the budget. Chris will make a pulpit appeal about Towers of Faith during Stewardship Renewal in January. We continue to grow with new members stepping up as Towers of Faith.

Chris: **STEWARDSHIP**

Much was covered in the August meeting, see August 8 minutes. Dick and Charlene Belprez have stepped down as Chairs for Social Ministries. Good news that Cherie and Greg Abrahms have agreed to be the new Chairpersons for Social Ministries!

Solutions for Change is taking their garden grown vegetables to the Vista Farmers Market on October 24 and 31, from 4-8p.m. Come support them!

Chris: **WELCOME MINISTRY**

We are welcoming many new wonderful families to our faith community at St. Thomas More. They are coming on board as contributing members on a number of levels.

The Welcome Ministry is looking for more ministers. Please let Chris know if you know anyone who may be interested.

NEW IDEAS/BRAINSTORMING

Recycling? Reynolds Recycling currently works with another parish by bringing a truck every weekend and funds from the collected recyclables (by weight) go back to the parish. How can we take advantage of this opportunity? Do we have the Knights of Columbus or the Young adults head this up and either have bins on the plaza for collection and then they would take the bins into a specific recycling center. Do we have a STM Day once per month at a specific recycling center with all proceeds coming back to STM? Is there someone who might be willing to chair?

2013 Treasures Flea Market- Do we open it up to people outside the parish and charge a flat fee of \$50 for 2 spaces? Is this feasible?

The twice monthly dinner fundraisers are going well. Mortony's has closed its doors. The location will be reopening as Z Cafe. The next FUNdraiser is at El Torito October 23 and 24. Other restaurants coming are Felicias, Sammy's, Elephant Bar. Mrs. Taco's last FUNdraiser was not very successful. Other suggestions were West Buffet in Carlsbad and Anita's in Oceanside.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Doug: **PASTORAL COUNCIL**

See minutes from August 22, 2012 meeting.

<http://stmoside.org/pdf/councils/PastoralCouncil20120822.pdf>

Fr. Mike (for Paul): **FINANCE COUNCIL**

The budget results for Fiscal Year 2012 and the budget for Fiscal Year 2013 will be published online by October 31. Some paper copies will be available in the office for those who would like one. The Flea Market and Gala have been crucial fundraisers to help balance the budget.

PASTOR'S REPORT

The North County Solutions for Change fundraiser netted \$1.7 million to the organization. 700 people attended the dinner which was paid for by the Issa Family Foundation.

TMIY (That Man Is You) - 65 men have signed up and there are consistently 50 men attending each week.

Fr. Mike would like to see more men involved in Liturgical Ministry, it would give a better balance to this ministry and create more role models for the young men in the parish.

Fr. Mike will be meeting with T.B. Penick & Sons Construction to discuss fencing for the construction project. They have been gracious to allow us to store items in their truck that has been on our grounds.

Brian Leahey has been hired by STM as the Full Time Construction Manager to oversee the building of the church and parish offices! He will start on or before November 5.

CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:20pm

NEXT MEETING: Dates for 2013 TBA