

**ST. THOMAS MORE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES – May 11, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Fr. Mike Ratajczak, Ron Briseno, Doug D’Agrosa, Paul Ibbetson, Chris Smith, Flora Fallone, Jody Cadieux

**NOT PRESENT:** Louise Briseno, Theresa Goeltz, Brian Leahey, Vlad Bolsakov, Bill Ipsen, Diana Diaz, Anne Marshall, Valerie Thompson

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

**OPENING PRAYER:** St. Thomas More 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Prayer

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY 26, 2011 MEETING MINUTES:** Approved as posted on the website.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Chris:

**ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC**

The Golf Tournament is 3 weeks away...\$60,000 is the fundraising goal for the event and it is crunch time to get players. 64 players so far have signed up for Golf at Arrowood, 27 players for minigolf at Boomers. 28 tables have been reserved for Dinner, there are 8 tables left. Nina Woodward has been working daily as well as Lorraine to get incoming registrations and sponsorships processed. We all need to remind people to sign up. We are in need of additional sponsors as well.

New for this year: Helicopter Golf Ball Drop - \$10 per ball or 15 for \$100. There will be a flag in the middle of the grassy area on the upper level and closest will win: Grand Prize is \$1000 Scrip Certificate, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize is \$500 Scrip Certificate, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize is \$250 Scrip Certificate. Winner need not be present to win. Marc Raymundo will be doing the drop from the helicopter and STM Youth will clean up. The last sales for this event will be on the morning of the golf tournament during sign in. An anonymous sponsor has covered the cost of this event. The event is a good promotion for Scrip.

We are also having Champagne Diamond drawing again this year...\$20 per ticket. Winner will win a diamond necklace.

Hunter’s Steakhouse is catering the dinner.

**NEW BUSINESS – NO NEW BUSINESS TO REPORT**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Flora:

**ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

Currently, about \$46,020.20 pledged from 349 families. Our assessment is \$48,000. Approximately 56% of the pledged amount has been paid to date. A second mailing is going out the week of May15th to those families who have not yet responded to the ACA appeal. 80% of any amount we raise over the \$48,000 will come back to the parish. The “Pay It Forward” campaign has helped us to get close to reaching the goal so early in the year. Over the years, we have been fortunate to have much help from the diocese, including the gift of our 10 acres of land on which our Parish is being built, a 0% interest loan that helped us be able to build the Parish Center, and many exemptions to Diocesan loan policies in regard to our new \$5.4 million mortgage. This equals a \$3.4 million gift from the Diocese to St. Thomas More Parish.

Chris (for Bill): **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Total Pledges/Gifts as of May 8 were \$1,636,080 with 661 families responding. We still need \$363,920 and we would like to hear from the remaining 364 families. We have collected \$1,188,336 to date. Two large estate pledges came in recently to help towards the amount collected to date.

Chris: **MEMBERSHIP**

(for Valerie) Valerie Thompson will be taking over as chair in June after her term is up as Women's Guild President. We are very thankful to Louise for the terrific job she has done with the committee and the receptions during the last three years. The next New Member Reception is scheduled for Sunday, September 18, 2011.

Fr. Mike: **NEW CONSTRUCTION**

There will be a meeting with the New Construction Committee, Interior Design Team, and the Parish Staff on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, Dinner at 6:00 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The Parish Staff had a first look at the plans for the Parish Offices at its last Staff meeting. Robert Habiger has the latest plans from Renzo Zecchetto.

Chris: **PLANNED GIVING**

The Towers of Faith number has increased to 48!

Chris (for Anne): **PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Some help is needed with press releases. Anne is in need of assistance due to an increase in her workload. If there is anyone in the Parish who has connections with the local papers that would be willing to assist it would be a great help.

Ron: **SCRIP – NOTHING TO REPORT**

(for Theresa Goeltz)

Chris: **STEWARDSHIP**

Stewardship Renewal and Awareness month has been moved from October to January, 2012. It will be the same format as Stewardship month has been in the past.

A mini-committee will be formed to decide how to move forward at the end of the current Capital Campaign Phase II. The goal is to create an innovative approach to paying our upcoming 25 year mortgage with the Diocese once we have used up our funds on deposit for the buildings.

Chris (for Vlad): **VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM**

We've netted \$21,000 to date since the program began in 2006. We currently have 4 vehicles in process.

**NEW IDEAS/BRAINSTORMING**

Restaurants for FUNdraising: We raised about \$356 from Elephant Bar and \$300 from El Torito Dining Out events. Some ideas for new restaurants are BJ's in Carlsbad, Claim Jumper, Chili's again, Acapulco, Fishhouse Veracruz. It seems that if the restaurants are closer to the vicinity of the Parish, the FUNdraising event is more successful...do we revisit the same restaurants we have already?

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Doug: **PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
See minutes from February 2, 2011 meeting. [Click here.](#)

Paul: **FINANCE COUNCIL**  
The council met the week of May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are approximately \$23K short for the fiscal year, which is close to our budgeted forecast. We do have a chance to get our \$28K shortfall from last year as well. The Golf Tournament will be helpful. All is good for now. Easter and Christmas collections were good. The Council is in the process of setting up the accounts for the construction and the accounts will be more dissected to figure out what was spent more accurately.  
Some small repairs have to be made and reserve funds are being used to take care of it.

## **PASTOR'S REPORT**

Nothing to report.

Fr. Mike talked about his recovery from back surgery which is moving along more slowly than he would like.

Fr. Mike announced that we will have a seminarian, Ricardo Juarez-Frausto, who will be joining the parish for 6 months to a year. He is here to develop his Pastoral skills and his English language skills before he will be ordained to the Priesthood. His theological studies are complete. Welcome!

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Our Father.

**NEXT MEETING:** July 20, 2011 – 7:00pm. Opening Prayer- Flora Fallone