

**St. Thomas More Development Council  
Meeting Minutes – May 12, 2010**

**PRESENT:** Fr. Mike Ratajczak, Ron Briseno, Paul Ibbetson, Anne Marshall, Chris Smith, Flora Fallone, Theresa Goeltz

**NOT PRESENT:** Bill Ipsen, Louise Briseno, Brian Leahey, Doug D'Agrosa, Vlad Bolsakov

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

**OPENING PRAYER:** Theresa Goeltz

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY 20, 2010 MEETING MINUTES:** Approved as posted on the website.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Ron:           **RESTAURANT FUNDRAISING**  
Ron reported that the manager of the Elephant Bar Restaurant indicated a great turnout of St. Thomas More members on Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. Ron suggested that announcements be made from the pulpit on a regular basis letting parishioners know the actual amount of monies given to St. Thomas More from these restaurant fundraising events. This would allow parishioners to appreciate how much St. Thomas More is benefiting from member participation in these fundraising endeavors!

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Theresa:       She is working on getting more volunteers to help make the sale of Scrip more efficient and more readily available for purchase. Theresa would like to have a larger Scrip advertising board to get the attention of parishioners as they leave Mass. Chris Smith offered her the use of a large bulletin board that she has. Other ideas include making seasonal plugs for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Back-to-School, etc; gift basket drawings in conjunction with buying scrip; having scrip available for restaurant fundraisers. Chris Smith also spoke to the idea of implementing the method that was used for credit card charges at the Golf Classic. It expedited the whole process. Theresa was told to speak to Natalie Province in this regard. Another avenue Theresa is looking into is to have scrip available on-line at the parish website. Going to the use of pulpit announcements, it was suggested that perhaps a little 'commercial' like ditty is performed by two individuals acting out the how-and-why scrip is handy and useful for almost everything imaginable. Also, to make a plug every couple

of months about vendors who return higher percentage of monies to St. Thomas More via the Scrip program.

**Chris: CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

The on-going campaign has 464 households that have responded. 10 households indicated that they were unable at this time to make any pledge. 5 households were adopted by other St. Thomas More members. The next mailing will be going out to 500 households targeting members who haven't responded as yet. Another special mailing will be sent out to regular contributing members who have not responded.

**Chris: PLANNED GIVING**

Chris is working on the details of two parishioners who have included St. Thomas More in their wills.

**Anne: PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Anne sent an information flier to the North County Times for the recent Spring Sing at St. Thomas More.

**Chris: STEWARDSHIP**

Fr. Mike was presented with a check for \$55,000.00 from the Golf Classic Fundraiser. She is working on getting full capacity participation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pastor's Dinner at the Shadowridge Country Club on Sunday, August 22, 2010. Monies are being set aside to pay for all expenses incurred with this event.

Mary Ratajczak and Family have agreed to host two In-Home Dinners as fundraisers.

There will not be a new Stewardship brochure prepared at this time.

**Chris: VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM**

Per Chris Smith, Vlad reported that the program is going well. The proceeds from the sale of two vehicles, one motorcycle and one boat are in the works.

**Flora: ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

Parishioners are responding in kind, and to date St. Thomas More has received pledges in the amount of \$39,255.00 from 283 Families to meet our parish assessment of \$43,000.00. The results are very encouraging that we will meet our goal.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Paul: FINANCE COUNCIL**

Tithing is down 5%. Budget is tight and will be through the end of the year. The church parking lot resurfacing that has until now been postponed, must be done and will be paid for from the Building Fund.

**Fr. Mike: PASTORAL COUNCIL**

The Charter for the Pastoral Council is in the process of being prepared.

## **NEW IDEAS/BRAINSTORMING**

**Ron:** Has suggested that a simple pamphlet style 'parish directory' be prepared in house with the names of parishioners who wish to advertise their businesses/services. These pamphlets could be sold for a small fee to defray the cost of printing and materials. Advertisers could offer discounts to those who to patronize their business, or donate a percentage of their sales to St. Thomas More. Ron will check further into this with legal counsel. Ron has also suggested setting up a committee to work with the Bulletin Company.

**Fr. Mike:** Suggested holding a Rummage Sale in the church parking as a fundraiser. The idea of Parish-in-House Dinners, other than the fish fry's and breakfasts sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, is being shelved at this time due to the current Restaurant Fundraising program.

## **PASTOR'S REPORT**

Nothing to report.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** The Lord's Prayer

**NEXT MEETING:** July 21, 2010 – 7:00pm. Opening Prayer – Flora Fallone

