

ST. THOMAS MORE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES – February 6, 2013

PRESENT: Fr. Mike Ratajczak, Ron Briseno, Chris Smith, Mike Nichols, Diana Diaz, Brian Leahey, Flora Fallone, Valerie Thompson, Jody Cadieux

NOT PRESENT: Jane Gladden, Bill Ipsen, Doug D'Agrosa, Paul Ibbetson, Andrea Sweeney

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

OPENING PRAYER: Diana Diaz

ROLE CALL

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 17, 2012 MEETING MINUTES: Approved in October, 2012 as posted on the website.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Development Council Representative needed to attend Pastoral Council Meetings to give a brief Development Council Update. Schedule for the remainder of the year as follows:

April 24	Ron Briseno
July 31	Jane Gladden
October 30	Flora Fallone

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Flora: **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

To date \$48,762.28 collected to date for 2012 ACA from 377 families toward the 2012 Diocesan assessment of \$48,000. We will receive 80% of the overage back, for a check in the amount of \$609.82. The assessment for St. Thomas More in 2013 is \$48,000 again. Letters for the ACA will go out the week of February 10. This year the parish will receive 100% of the overage collected.

Chris (for Bill): **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN/MORTGAGE OFFERING**

The Capital Campaign Phase 2.1 is completed for the parish and we have now moved into the Mortgage Offering phase. We were \$68,000 over our \$500,000 goal for the Phase 2.1 Capital Campaign. We are thrilled that our goal has been met!

Valerie: **MEMBERSHIP**

The next New Member Reception will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2013. Invitations will be sent out the week of February 10. Valerie is also looking to recruit a couple of new members for the committee. There was a discussion of what can be done to encourage timely RSVPs for planning purposes.

Brian: **NEW CONSTRUCTION**

There are a lot of things currently in process. Brian is obtaining bids for grading and deep utilities. He met with the concrete contractor and the original contractor who provided the concrete for our present building. They discussed ways to save money; one of which is to use the white concrete only where needed to save significant dollars. Landscaping design is being reviewed to see where we can value engineer smaller plantings to save money.

Headway is being made with the interior drawings and there is also ceiling design rework being done for acoustics and reverberation. Lighting is also being value engineered; the electrical engineer we are using has a lot of experience with other churches in the San Diego area. The structural steel subcontractor could also provide significant savings.

There is a push on Renzo Zecchetto, our architect, to get the final coordination on the structural drawings so that we can get a fixed guaranteed maximum budget for the church and parish offices. Everything is moving forward with the City of Oceanside.

There will be a demonstration of the sound system at the end of the month; audio visual conduit is also in final coordination.

Other details discussed: The church will be approximately 22,000 square feet. The Crucifix will be 6 1/2 feet high, cast in bronze. The altar will weigh about 12,000 pounds and must sit on its own foundation, it will have to be craned into the building and set into place. The Marion Shrine will be plate glass and must be structurally anchored into the building.

Jody (for Jane): **PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Press releases went to the Deanery for the Sanctuary and Handbell Choir's Hymn Festival and the Molina's Children's Christmas party. The Molina's party went to two additional publications as well. For the December Southern Cross information was submitted for TMIY, the Women's Ministry, and the Catholicism series. These announcements were also published in the January edition. Press releases for Untold Blessings and Family Nights were submitted for future publications.

Jane attended the November 7 Pastoral Council meeting and distributed a listing of lead times for primary publications. She also attended a Diocesan Stewardship meeting on January 23rd with Fr. Mike, Chris and Lorraine. Jane made a good contact at the Union Tribune, Linda McIntosh, and she seems to be very open to working with us. Jane was also able to get better clarification from Interfaith Community Services about their requirements for submission.

Jane is adding Immaculate Heart Radio to our current publication list, and we have an ambassador, Carolyn Orscheln, and our promotions will be announced free of charge. She is also working to publicize the efforts of the STM Youth Justice Foundation.

Mike: **SCRIP**

Fourth Quarter sales were great...\$85,560 in scrip sold with almost \$44,000 in December alone. They are seeing more new names buying Scrip. A raffle was started for February and March...purchase \$200 in scrip in a month and be entered into a drawing for gift cards. Mike spoke with the Murphys about having volunteers sell Scrip at the 2013 Treasures Flea Market. There was also a question about using online ordering and debit cards online to use scrip, reloading cards, instant scrip much like St. Francis School PTG is able to do. Jody Cadieux was going to research which scrip company STF uses and report back to Mike and Ron.

Another suggestion was made for a pulpit announcement to have a quantity of certain scrip card, whether it be groceries or gas, and announce that there are X number available to purchase after mass to get people thinking about purchasing scrip.

Diana **VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM**

Since October we have had 8 more vehicle donations and all have "sold". We have received \$5,499.02 for 5 of those donations. The total to date STM has received from vehicle donations is \$31,860.18. Brian Leahey will start handling future vehicle donations. He has a dealer's license and can take vehicles to auction, and it should mean more money coming back to STM for those donations.

Chris: **PLANNED GIVING**

The Towers of Faith members are those who remember STM in their estate planning. Chris gave a pulpit appeal the last weekend of January at all Masses explaining the purpose of the Towers of Faith. We currently have 51 active Towers of Faith. Since its formal inception in 2006, 21 Towers of Faith have died, and have left a combined legacy, to date, of nearly \$500,000, as well as the parish

rectory. There are currently several estates are being settled. The pulpit appeal did create interest and she has gotten several inquiries.

Chris: **STEWARDSHIP**

January was Stewardship Awareness Month. Chris has received about 200 of the new Treasure forms back. Fr. Mike's "love letter" regarding the Mortgage Offering went out the 2nd week of January. We are assuming parishioners will continue the same pattern of giving if there is no response back. The Time/Talent returns are going well also.

The Town Hall meeting was a great, informative evening. People are excited about the interior building samples, which have also been on display on the upper level. Some of the blueprints are also on display in the office. The building samples will be moved downstairs, location to be determined. There are also 40 crucifixes available for purchase; these are a replicas of the crucifix that will be in the church. 14 have already been sold. The crucifixes are \$750 each and payment plans are available. John Nava, who is creating the tapestry of St. Thomas More, will be at the Interior Design meeting on February 27.

The Pastor's Excursion is scheduled for September 29. Tickets are \$250 each. There will be a bonus gift for those who pay in full by March 1.

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 currently training new ministers.

NEW IDEAS/BRAINSTORMING

Dining FUNDrainers have raised approximately \$16,000 since December, 2009. There will be 2 dining nights a month, again, starting in March.

A suggestion was made by Theresa Berry to sell vehicle stickers with the St. Thomas More logo. Perhaps Lorraine could create the design? Jody Cadieux will research where St. Francis PTG gets theirs printed.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Doug: **PASTORAL COUNCIL** - Nothing to Report as Doug was not present

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

We are where we normally are financially at this time of year, we are doing well. The offertory is up, but so are expenses. The Flea Market and Gala are crucial fundraisers to help balance the budget.

PASTOR'S REPORT - Nothing to Report

We were asked to keep the Headricks family in our prayers.

CLOSING PRAYER: Making All Things New in Stewardship

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 1 at 7:00 p.m.