

CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS MORE  
FINANCE COUNCIL MINUTES

November 28, 2007

**Members Present:** Father Mike Ratajczak, Paul Ibbetson, Don Eppich, Jim McGlone, Genevieve Green, Charles Salter, Wilma Rolland, Nancy Busse, Natalie Provinse (Bookkeeper), Ron Briseno (Development Council)

**Members Absent:** Janice Treat, Doug D'Agrosa (Pastoral Council)

**Opening Prayer:** The meeting was called to order with an opening prayer by Paul Ibbetson at 7:02 pm.

**Opening remarks:** Nancy Busse was introduced as the new secretary to replace Wilma Rolland. She will begin at the next meeting in February 2008. Julie Simonson who was slated to accept the position at this meeting has declined.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the October 24 meeting were approved via e-mail and fax for posting on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Review of Financial Statement:** Don Eppich presented a review of the financial statement. Our total income continues to be below budget by 7.65% which amounts to \$29,000 below what we budgeted for this year. This is due to: 1). the collection income being less: 2). we have not yet received a rebate from the Diocese for the "Annual Catholic Appeal", and 3). the "Did you Know Campaign" is below budget by 39.10%.

Our expenses are over budget by 2.19%. Some of this is attributed to up front expenses for the stewardship dinner and various categories that are slightly over budget.

The council is keeping a close watch on the ratio of income to expenses each month.

Spreadsheets were presented representing month to month income comparisons for this year to last, a review of the reserve account and a summary of the checking account Saint Thomas More uses for bill paying etc.

**Old business:** There was nothing under this category.

**New Business:** There was nothing under this category

**Building and Maintenance:** Jim McGlone has just completed a survey of parish fixed asset accounting and is now completing his report. He plans to circulate a copy of the report to all Council members a week or so prior to the next Council meeting during which the report will be discussed.

Power washing of the exterior of the entire building will begin Saturday December 1. The cost of \$3,000 will be paid from the reserve account. Completion of this will be just prior to the routinely scheduled window washing.

**Personnel Report:** The overseeing of Building and Maintenance within the Finance Council will now be done by Don Eppich in addition to the Budget Review.

**Update from Pastoral Council:** The council is considering a “*Centering Prayer*” ministry. Mary Williams is coordinating it with Father Mike.

Bishop Brom will be at our Parish on Monday December 10 for a “dialogue with the Bishop about sexual abuse and other related issues”. All parishioners are encouraged to attend. The presentation will also include a Q&A session.

**Update from Development Council:** The fencing is complete on the five acre parcel with the signage and fire department lock to be completed soon.

Representatives of parish leadership are having a meeting December 12 to prepare for the upcoming meeting with the Diocesan Construction Services on December 20.

“Towers of Faith” dinner will be December 2.

33 new volunteers have come forward as a result of our Ministry Fair in October.

Our Vehicle Donation Program has donated over \$9,000 to the parish during the last year.

The three year pledges for the Capital Campaign will expire soon. Chris will be contacting these individuals. 13 households have already, on their own, renewed their Capital Campaign pledges.

**Request for Press Releases:** There was nothing under this category.

**Comments from the Pastor:** There was nothing under this category.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Father Mike at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilma Rolland

