

CHURCH OF SAINT THOMAS MORE
FINANCE COUNCIL MINUTES

May 14, 2008

Members Present: Father Mike Ratajczak, Paul Ibbetson, Don Eppich, Jim McGlone, Janice Treat, Nancy Busse, Natalie Provinse (Bookkeeper), Doug D'Agrosa (Pastoral Council)

Members Absent: Genevieve Green, Ron Briseno, Charles Salter

Opening Prayer: The meeting was called to order with an opening prayer by Janice Treat at 7:16 pm.

Opening remarks: There was nothing under this category.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the February 27, 2008 meeting were approved via e-mail and faxed for posting on April 6th.

Review of Financial Statement: Don Eppich remarked the Balance sheet was acceptable. He presented a review of the financial statement. Our total income continues to be below budget by 6% which amounts to \$32,000 below what we budgeted for this year. This is due to: 1). the collection income being less, and our expenses are over budget by 3.3%. Some of this is attributed to up front expenses for various categories that are slightly over budget.

The Council is keeping a close watch on the ratio of income to expenses each month and plans to have the new budget by June 30.

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.

Father Mike introduced the Secondary Education Initiative report created March 26, 2008 showing St. Thomas More parish gift contribution at \$129,381 toward our \$1 million pledge for the new north county high school, Pax Christi.

Father Mike also gave a review of our parish response to "Embracing our Mission" which was just over \$11,000.

Old business: There was nothing under this category.

New Business: Update on the Parish build-out by Father Mike. Our architect is Renzo Zecchetto Architects of Santa Monica, California. Our Liturgical Consultant is Robert Habiger of Dekker/Perich/Sabatini of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Building and Maintenance: Jim McGlone will continue to conduct a survey of parish fixed asset accounting. 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.

Personnel Report: No new money counter to approve.

Update from Pastoral Council: The “*Centering Prayer*” ministry led by Mary Williams is getting a favorable response.

The Middle school retreat was a success.

The Confirmation Mass was a very proud moment for our parish.

The Pastoral Council is looking at the possibility of staggering the requests for donations pertaining to special events throughout the course of the year. Presently most requests come in the months of November and December.

Update from Development Council: There was nothing under this category.

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

Comments from the Pastor: A meeting for budget review discussion is set for June 5th at 4 pm. The next scheduled Finance Council meeting has been changed to July 9th 2008.

Request for Cantors: Douglas Lynn, Director of Music has given the Finance Council a detailed request for the consideration of professional Cantors to improve the quality of the liturgy and provide musical support to the parish. The cantors would be stipend. This item was approved by the Liturgy Committee and sent to Pastoral Council. At Pastoral Council, the proposal was also approved and recommended to be sent to Finance Council. It is understood that the Finance Council would only approve the proposal as funds are available.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Father Mike at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Busse