

St. Augustine Catholic Church

Pastoral Council Minutes

January 24, 2005

Richard Poprik

Father Mike

Consuelo Segura

Rosalia West

Anthony Sadowski

Alberto Torres

Amber Vojtecky

Carole Maxwell

Margret Warren

Mary Lou Marple

Katherine Anderson

Rebecca Wood

T. Moreira

Maria Elena Rosales

Fidel Rubio

Prayer and Reflection

Prayer and reflection was led by Tony Sadowski. It was based on the Gospel reading for January 22, 2006, Mark 1.14-20: "What part of your life is Jesus calling you to change right now?"

Changes in Council Leadership

Richard Poprik expressed his sorrow for stepping down from his council position. Richard stated that the church is very large, and we as a council must look out for the parishioners. Richard explained that in accordance with the bi laws that Bill Knapp will be taking Richards place. Richard expressed his heartfelt feeling that Bill has the "big picture" and assured us all that he felt that Bill was a wonderful choice as parish council chair. With Bill stepping down we will be down a vice chair. The concern was raised that we may need another discernment process. This discernment will be held on our scheduled work day, February 11th. At the end of the work day we will have a discernment to find new leadership within council. DJ Belcher has also expressed his intention to step down from his position as vice chair due to family and job commitments. Father Mike reflected that family is the domestic church. He stated that is it sometimes difficult for a husband and wife team with work, babysitters, ect. The new bi-laws reflect a change to show that a husband and wife team cannot be discerned in the same year. Father Mike further commented that the discernment process should show realism. One should ask themselves, "Do I have time to do this?"

These changes will leave us with 10 members at large v/s 12 members at large. The replacement members will be serving a one year term. It was suggested that it may be wise to discern someone who has served on council before. We also discussed the possibility of asking parish members who had been discerned but not voted in if they would be interested in serving a one year term on council. Father Mike suggested that we offer up the names of people who if we had our dream council could serve. Several names of past parish council members were mentioned. It was decided that we would make a list of potential parishioners and priorities it. The list will then be spilt between Richard and Bill to call and make personal invitations.

Parish Voice

Carole Maxwell began the parish voice discussion by stating her concerns about the nursery. It has come to her attention that volunteers are not showing up, subsequently leaving no-one there when people go to drop off their babies. She made a suggestion that everyone needing the service of the nursery could pay two dollars and then that money would be used to pay someone to be dedicated to watch the children in the nursery. Richard mentioned that we should share this problem with the nursery coordinator. Father Mike mentioned that we had discussed giving a stipend to a teenager in the past to watch the children. Richard stated that it would be helpful if the person was bilingual and it would also be imperative that they took the VIRITUS training class. This problem will be taken to the Christian Formation Committee, it was also mentioned that it could fall under the Worship Committee.

Tony Sadowski brought up the topic of a Boy Scout Soccer League. He wanted to know if Father Mike had given any further thought to starting a league.

Teresa Moreira brought up her concerns about the construction that was going on around the church, and that the workers may not have been cleaning up properly.

Alberto Torres brought up his concern about an incident that occurred during a wedding reception in the parish hall on December 3rd. He said that people were consuming alcohol and had gotten into a fight. There was police involvement. He suggested that we may need to have more regulations on who we rent the hall to. Father Mike said that we may need to hire security people for when the hall is rented & alcohol is to be served. This problem will be referred to Caroline in the business office.

Carole Maxwell also mentioned her concern about Mass being interrupted on Tuesday morning because a disabled woman was asked to move her car.

The minutes from November 29th, 2005 were approved

Building Committee Update

The Steering Committee for the eventual Building committee will meet on January 31st. Tony will be the liaison for the Building Committee. Father Mike expressed how important this committee is, he said that the Steering Committee consists of people who have been at the parish for a long time and respect what needs to be done. This will include prioritizing, funding, specializing.

Safe Environment Committee

This committee is envisioned to address both the Bishop's concerns and also a safe environment in the larger context including the physical plant- ex. Handicap access, lighting, sound, ect. The Bishop is having every parish have a safety committee. The committee will meet 4 to 6 times a year. Rebecca Wood has volunteered to be a liaison for the Safe Environment Committee.

Giving Thanks Dinner

A sign up sheet was passed around again at this months meeting to find volunteers to help with cooking, set up, and cleanup for the giving thanks dinner. Many children are helping with baking the cookies, so it was decided that those preparations would begin at 5 on Thursday. Friday night Angy, Rosa, Ashley, Richard, Leah, & Leah will be making salad at Richard's house. Cooking will be an all day affair on Saturday. Based on tickets we will have 23 volunteers coming before mass and 240 after mass. We will be eliminating the red tickets during this weeks distribution after masses.

Plans for the work day

It was mentioned that not all members of council are always active in the meetings. TO help promote group activity we will begin with a session focusing on why we are on council. We will work on the three year plan and discern a vice chair. Richard gave us a copy of the 3 year plan from 2003-2006 to review.

Committee Voice

The Stewardship Fair will be February 11th & 12th. They will be setting up during our workday. The fair will be after 5:30 mass.

HISPANIC COMMITTEE REPORT PASTORAL COUNCIL 01/24/2006

We celebrated during the month of December Las Posadas - it is Christmas celebrations that begins on the 16 December with nightly posadas. Posada is the Mexican word for shelter, it refers to the shelter that Mary and Joseph sought in which to prepare for the birth of Jesus. The celebration started from Dec. 16 to Dec. 24th. We visited different homes and shared songs, prayers, and food. Also, we had the celebration for our volunteers on Dec. 17, 2005. We had at least 200 people attending the celebration. We shared presents. We provided toys to the children of the volunteers. We had a data show of our volunteers working within the church. We danced and had food for everybody.

The Charismatic group celebrated a vigil on Dec. 31, 2006. All the community was invited.

On Jan.8, we celebrated Epiphany. The activity was announced on the radio, church, and other means of communication. During that day we had mass at 1:00 p.m. We had different organizations present from Chesterfield County including the Police of Chesterfield. The number of people attending was at least 1,000. We had toys for every child thanks to the donation of the different organizations within the Chesterfield County. We are in the process to establish a better relationship with the police in our community. The police want to work with us in order to reduce crime in our community. They were very polite and professional. We had a session of questions and answers with the police (there were at least 40 questions answered). Also, I invited the police to come to our Hispanic Committee meeting. On January 17, 2006, we had our first meeting. Officers of the Chesterfield County and one of our members of the Parish Counsel, Carole Maxell, are taking the initiative to look for volunteers. The volunteers will participate with the Police of Chesterfield on an special training. They need interpreters.

On Dec. 3 we had the Torch Guadalupana. We had more than 70 runners. We went to South Carolina in order to bring the Torch to St. Augustine. It was a great.