

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**St. John Fisher Parish Council (PC)**  
**January 14, 2007**

**Agenda:**

***1. Opening***

- Chairperson Renee Smith opened the meeting with a “Thank You” to the members for their spirit of cooperation in the many communications required to complete our work with a minimum of follow up.
- The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.

***2. Focus Items for Discernment***

- Building committee update: Monte Oberlee and Paul Borucki reported on the status of the GISC Campaign, and the study underway that has the potential to achieve significant savings. The Council unanimously supported the initiative which would create a “Phase I hybrid” based on recent experience in other parishes. They will be reporting back with the results, and if appropriate, plans to communicate these changes with the Parish Community.
- Lew Elbert presented a proposed process for collaboration with the Pastoral Team and Commissions to create a Pastoral Plan for implementation in the coming year. The Council suggested a few modifications, which will now be reviewed with the Pastoral team on 1/18 and reported back at the February meeting for a 3/18 start.
- Renee Smith distributed a schedule for Council participation at new member welcoming. Recent experience has received favorable feedback and we are proceeding to make this a standing rotational assignment.

### *3. Updates*

- **Hispanic Pastoral Plan:** The Council reviewed and discussed the consensus of opinions submitted by members as a result of discussions at the last meeting. Three options have emerged which will be presented at an upcoming PAV meeting and will be finalized at our next meeting with that additional input.
- **Strategic Priorities:** An update on the status of each of our Parish priorities was distributed and reviewed. A key part of the discussion dealt with how these priorities will blend with the priorities identified in the upcoming Pastoral Planning Process. This will require follow up but the progress underway appears to be sufficient to allow a smooth transition into the next year.
- **Parish demographic study:** The information needed to perform a follow up study for 2006 that compares to 2005 will be available this month. With the input of the PT and PC, a number of modifications have been made, including the opportunity to capture a list of all the volunteers (of time and talent) we enjoy in every Commission. This information will also be important in the upcoming Planning Process.
- **Parish Council Greeting Schedule:** Renee Smith presented a schedule to formalize our role as “welcomers” prior to Mass on weekends. **Council members assigned to specific times with conflicts were asked to “trade” with other members as appropriate.**

### *4. Feedback*

- In this new section of the agenda, members were asked for their “view from the pew” on the response to the Advent theme this year. All members reported that the approach was well received and in view of the overall linkage of themes planned for the liturgical year was a great start. Renee Smith will prepare a note of thanks to those involved.

- New Eucharistic procedures: The change required some attention to details at the start but has now been readily welcomed.

### ***5. Liaison Communications***

- Joe Pauwels reported that the Christmas collection was good this year and at forecast, however not enough to erase our current deficit on a fiscal year basis (as it did last year). We are currently about \$23,000 below budgeted income on a seasonally adjusted basis. Also, the Finance Ministry is proceeding to develop a plan to offer electronic giving for the Parish.
- Cecilia Karr and Fabiola Tonna volunteered to serve the Parish Council sponsored dinner at the Retreat on the evening of January 20<sup>th</sup>. Kim Dodd will assist as a retreat participant.
- ACTS training continues with seats available starting January 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Parish Council representatives for On Campus Ministry January 31<sup>st</sup>: Allan Reynolds, Lew Elbert

### ***5. Conclusion***

- **Key upcoming events:**
  - **SJF Appreciation Evening: February 17<sup>th</sup>**
  - **PAV Assembly on Racial Sobriety: February 26<sup>th</sup>**
- Renee Smith closed the meeting with details for the next meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup>.
- All members present except Liz LaChance (excused).

Respectfully submitted,

Lew Elbert