

Meeting Minutes
St. John Fisher Parish Council
November 16, 2008

1. Opening

- Light lunch and socializing
- All PC members were in attendance except Dairdre McGlothlin (excused)
- Jeannette Hojnacki led the opening prayer

2. Focus Item For Discernment

- There was much discussion of reworking the SJF Mission, Vision and Values in conjunction with the preparation of the Parish 5 Year Plan
- There was in depth discussion on “How do we incorporate the needs of the parish community of TODAY into the new SJF Mission, Vision and Values”.

- i. This will be a long term project and Father Jerry suggested that the first step is to **organize a committee of 5-6 parishioners to facilitate the project.** These would be people who could commit to being on the project long term. The group would always include a parish council officer to act as a liaison.
 - a. This group would lead the process and come up with the overall plan of action.
 - b. They would come up with the various topics for the vision focus and most likely come up with a survey to be utilized in the process.
- ii. The next step would be to set up small groups (i.e. 40 groups of 10 people per group) to discuss the different topics to obtain the priorities for the parish.
 - a. **The Adult Faith Formation group would manage the focus groups** to come up with the top parish priorities.
 - b. There would also be the possibility of surveys for those parishioners who are not involved in the focus groups.
- iii. The next step would be to have the top parish priorities posted in the activities room.
 - a. **Each parishioner would have the opportunity to vote** on their own personal top 5 priorities.
 - b. There would also be space for comments.
- iv. The next step would be for the Parish Council to process the information and for the liaisons to work with their commissions to come up with the new basic **Mission Vision and Values.**
- v. **Finally the council will develop the final goal and action steps for the MVV.**

- This project would most likely be kicked off during Holy Week of 2009. We could contact Fr. Crosby and have him incorporate this into his Lenten retreat to have people start thinking about it.
- Speak up groups could happen in fall of 2009 with the final MVV developed by lent of 2010.
- Joe Pauwels offered to put the leadership group together. He should have the group organized by January. Once the group is put together we will receive feedback from them on how the process should work.

3. Updates

- Laura Borroni-Bird gave an update on Holy Family Regional School.
 - i. The school is in currently in good shape financially. They had a couple years of declining enrollment but have seen an increase this year. This is due to the hiring of a marketing director and the Ambassador Program.
 - ii. Issue for the future may be to market to non-Christians if enrollment starts to decline.
- Commission Updates
 - i. Tom Arwady updated on the many activities of CYA. The Harvest for Hope Auction, the winter retreat, table ministry, campus campfire and the hunger banquet.
 - ii. Sheran Tioran updated on Evangelization. The Peace by Peace speaker from Darfur went well and was well attended. Lighthouse outreach went well and the Baldwin shelter is in need of food. J&P held the faithful citizen election and held a prayer service the night before the election.
 - iii. Tim Brisbois gave an update on education. Current challenge is to keep 7th and 8th graders coming to Faith Formation classes.
 - iv. Erica Garcia updated on youth group. The retreat is next week and she is happy that 20 freshmen are participating. Winter Ski trip will be led by Tim Brisbois.
 - v. Juli Kubicki and Jeannette Hojnacki updated on Worship/Pastoral Care/Spirituality. Ritual Planning and Art and Environment are currently working on the upcoming themes and how they will configure in the new chapel. Challenge for New Member Welcomers is to convey the importance of the job and improve attendance when scheduled. Scripture Study is looking to attract some younger participants. Companion ministry is experiencing a higher level of time required because of the number of volunteers and the coordination challenge.
 - vi. Jerry Bishop update on Finance & Development. We are looking forward to the new sign that the Scouts are working on. The parish is doing well financially although we are

dependant on the usual Christmas offering. The spine roof will need to be replaced in 1-2 years.

- Church Renovation
 - i. There have been challenges but we have been able to keep the increase from the original estimate to \$4000-\$5000. The chapel will be 95% done by Nov.21.
- Electronic Giving
 - i. The test is going well and we plan to roll it out to the rest of the parish soon.
- PAV Update
 - i. St. Andrew is offering career counseling and placement.
 - ii. Deacon Alex Joblowski is looking to develop a pastoral care plan. This will be a caring for the sick that is vicariate wide.
 - iii. Louis Boricki has been nominated for the MLK award.
 - iv. There is a vicariate group that is focusing on the Hispanic community and what their needs are. Once more is finalized Dawy Gonzalez-Ruiz will update us.

4. Upcoming Items

- New member welcoming on January 8 at 8:00pm will be attended by Tom Arwardy and Jeannette Hojnacki.
- The Christmas Social will be on Dec. 7. It will be offsite and include Parish Council and Staff.