

ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting minutes from March 23, 2010

Attendees: Father Tiegs, Marvin Winkeler, Stacy Watson, Joan McDonough, Annette Wallace, Matt Dickey, Pete Froelicher, Father Chi, Dean Strehle, and Mary Maguire

Excused: Andrew White, Sherry Solsky

Opening prayer – Pete Froelicher

Meeting minutes approved for the Feb. 23rd meeting

Item 1: Guest visitor Mary Maguire – Annual Religious Education Report

1. Religious Education Program has 1,350 students and over 295 weekly volunteers. 240 students received Confirmation. 250 students received First Communion and First Reconciliation.
2. 410 children attended Vacation Bible School and 150 volunteers helped with the school program.
3. The 7th and 8th graders provide 5,000+ hours of volunteer work that support our parish, archdiocese and the community.
4. R.E. Program coordinates with Youth Ministry, Adult Education, the school and other parish programs.
5. There has been a lack of Catechists and 40 positions need to be filled.
6. High school students are participating in the Life Teen program.
7. The curriculum for R.E. is the same as 5 – day school program.

Item 2: Pastor's Report

1. The budget preparations for the 2010/2011 fiscal year are not yet completed.
2. School tuition rates have been set and the registration process for both RE and 5 - day school is underway.
3. Parish staff will receive a 2.5 % raise above current salary/hourly wages.
4. The issue of replacement of the portables is something we must address. The replacement cost would be \$175,000.00 (according to two bids).
5. We have received a bid for a facilities assessment from BCDM for around \$5,000.00. This would be a complete inspection of our entire building, grounds and equipment and suggestions for future needs. We are awaiting another bid from Alvin & Associates.
6. Chili Challenge netted about \$26,000.00 Thanks to all! This is a major assist to us as we look for cash to make up for our tuition waivers.
7. The assistant principal position for our 5 – day school should be finalized by Easter.

8. Holy Week and Easter are already here. Besides the usual services, our youth ministry is putting on a Passion Play on Good Friday at 5:00 p.m. We will also take up an offering at the Good Friday services to support the Catholic Churches and Shrines in the Holy Land. Our Easter vigil baptisms will include a number of children.

Item 3: Tom Jorgensen's report given by Father Tiegs

1. Discussion of 5 – year planning committee.
2. Divine Mercy Sunday (April 11th) - Festival of Faith Schedule
 - a. 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.: Mass
 - b. 1:00 – 1:30 p.m.: Adult Choir/ Music
 - c. 1:30 – 2:00 p.m.: Baptism
 - d. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.: John Paul II & Divine Mercy / Right to Life – Bob Finger
 - e. 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.: Divine Mercy Chaplet & Meditation / Exposition – Karen Hardy and Deacons
 - f. 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.: Healing Service & Anointing of the Sick – Fr. Jim
 - g. 5:00 – 5:30 p.m.: Rosary (Daily Mass Chapel)

Item 4: Marvin's Report

1. Election of president for Pastoral Council. Marvin was re-elected as president.
2. Pastoral Council and Board of Education elections will be held April 24th and 25th. Sign up for counting ballots.
3. Pastoral Council sign up for greeter / hosts for each hour at the Festival of Faith on April, 11th.
4. Outgoing 2010 Pastoral Council members are Matt Dickey, Sherry Solsky, and Andrew White.
5. Newly elected members (3) will start at the May meeting.
6. Recording secretary and vice-president will be elected at the May meeting.
7. Dean is scheduled for opening and closing prayers for April, 27th meeting.

Meeting concluded with prayer led by Pete.