

**Minutes**  
**St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council**  
**April 10, 2006**

**Attendees:**

Bill Burns	Maureen Morehouse
Jackie Carosa	Rick Rall
Dean Hamingson	Sr. Katherine Ann Rappl
Drew Desmarais	Debbie Rieger
Fr. Chuck Latus	Drew smith
Michael Lynch	Tom Swovick
Sue Markowski	Pat Vargas
Marti Mauro	
John McDermott	

**Guest Speaker:** Ed Ritzel

**Opening Prayer:** Rick Rall

**Confirmation of Minutes:** Regular March meeting.

**Liaison Reports/Around the Table:**

**Tom Swovick:** Scouts made 5 First aid kits for the members of the team going down to St. Clement in New Orleans. Done at last minute notice but done well and happy to help out.

**Drew Smith:** Cub Scouts had done some vandalism to the choir practice room. The damage was repaired and the Scouts were reprimanded for the incident.

Cub Master has received their Wood Badge. The Badge takes 18 months of training before it is awarded. Drew explained that this Badge is like getting a masters degree in college!

**Maureen Morehouse:** Finance committee is working diligently on the Budget and believes it will be ready on time.

**Drew Desmarais:** RCIA-several candidates will be Baptized on Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil. Rcia has been very blessed to have so many candidates this year.

**Jackie Carosa for Catherine Sutura:** 1st Easter Egg Hunt for Youth group. 135 children participated in the Easter Egg hunt. All had a great time. Will probably keep as a tradition with a few minor adjustments. March 25 /50 youths attended New Orleans night at St. Paul's.

**Sister Katherine Ann:** School news. U of R has partnered with the school with a medical project. 60 families have signed up. If a child at school is not feeling well, a Dr. checks the child and prescribes appropriate medicine. Calls in prescription and saves parent trip to DR's office.

**Rick Rall:** Knights of Columbus busy with projects. Fish fry has been a huge success this year. Fryer needs some repairs but overall the team will have a profit after the repair.

**Mike Lynch:** A group of members from the WPCC went down to New Orleans to help out an elderly couple who had extreme damage to their home after Katrina. The group was

featured on the news. Linda Schoepfel from St. Rita Parish went as a volunteer. Much sacrifice by herself and her family was endured to allow Linda to serve as a volunteer. The contingency drove back to take part in a spaghetti dinner at St. Paul's, all proceeds going to St. Clement's. Mike also explained that part of the next step will be for personal outreach. Looking for at least 100 families to "adopt" a family and be pen pals. Here at St. Rita's we have raised over \$7200.00 to send to St. Clement's. 3 parishes in the Diocese have partnered with a Parish in New Orleans.

**Dean Hamingson:** Selection process starts the weekend of April 29/30. After those Masses for that weekend members volunteered to collect the nomination forms. The schedule is as follows:

Saturday 5 PM -	Sue and Mike
Sunday 7:30-	John, Dean and Bill
Sunday 9-	Marti, Maureen and Pat
Sunday 10:30-	Drew and Debbie

Information night will be held on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. Tom, Rick and Marti have volunteered to speak about their experience as a member of the PPC. On June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2 male, 2 female, 2 youth and 1 young adult will be chosen to serve on the PPC.

Election process for the PPC will be at the June meeting. 2 officers will be elected to serve as Chair and Co-Chair. The members that are eligible for election are: Tom Swovick, Marti Mauro, Drew Smith, Bill Burns, Peter Charleton, Debbie Rieger and Maureen Morehouse. If Michael Lynch, Ed Wynne or Rick Rall are re-nominated and chosen on Pentecost weekend to sit on council again, they also are eligible to hold an office.

Suggestion Box process will be discussed at a future meeting. Pat and Maureen have presented to the PPC about the suggestion box process. They have explained thoroughly how the process is to take place. There are 4 questions that will be discussed at the future meeting.

1. Should suggestion/comments be accepted if the originator does not give their name?
2. What directions should be given to the ministry leader when the suggestion is forwarded to them?
3. What should the leader report back to the PPC suggestion box liaison person/team?(Pat and Maureen)
4. What should the Liaison person/team (Pat and Maureen) report back to the PPC and how often?

**Fiesta News- Ed Ritzel:** Fiesta to be held June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be concerts Friday and Saturday evening. The fiesta will kick off with a Parade celebrating St. Rita School 50 Year Anniversary. The raffle will be held differently this year. There will be a \$10,000.00 prize. Everyone will be mailed a raffle form for the prize. The cost of each ticket will be \$10.00. The form can be copied and people can sell as many as they like. Books of tickets are being eliminated due to cost and labor. Right now, our two biggest sponsors are Flaherty Funding and Isaac Heating. A request was made to tithe part of the Fiesta profit to St. Clement Parish in New Orleans. Council approved the request. There will be pre-paid radio spots for the Fiesta and each Parish in the WPCD will also advertise for the Fiesta. Sign up for the Fiesta will be May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Father Chuck:** Opened with recognition and acknowledgement of our Choir and the beautiful concerts and songs of evening prayer. Talked about concerns we have and 77 other parishes have about stewardship. The 22 recommendations (included in the Parish Council Expansion Project Recommendations Document) will be brought to a committee of 6 or 7 ministry leaders from the parish by Fr. Chuck. The committees involved will be Stewardship, Finance, PPC, Long Range Planning, Building & Grounds and Liturgy. Their goal is to combine some of the recommendations, not eliminate them. This committee will work over the summer and return in the fall to present their findings to the PPC. Some of the concerns that will be discussed are balancing the budget and the contingency fund, the design issue of the expansion space, further communication with the Parish and the sense of NEED. The schematic design plan will be reviewed in the fall with Dave McClellan. He will explain the process of a schematic design to the PPC. The current mortgage needs to be addressed and the Finance committee is working on that. Flaherty Funding has had meetings with Fr. Chuck to come up with some recommendations.

**Jackie Carosa:** Concerns about the seating capacity of the expanded church after we are down to one priest and 3 Masses. The current expansion project will not address the overcrowding that will result from losing our 4<sup>th</sup> Mass. Fr. Chuck agreed that it was a legitimate concern. He stated that in past meeting with the Diocese Mega Churches were not going to happen and not even talked about. NOW it is being talked about.

Respectfully Submitted

Susan Markowski

04-15-06