

**Minutes**  
**St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council**  
**October 18, 2006**

**Attendees:**

Bill Burns	Marti Mauro
Maureen Morehouse	Bernadette Rall
Sr. Katherine Ann Rappl	Fr. Chuck Latus
Drew Smith	Jim Sauer
Pat Vargas	Tom Swovick
Dick Wagner	Dottie DeLano
Ann Tiberio	Betsy Swovick
Dan Hohl	Claire Schum

**Excused:**

Drew Demarais	John McDermott
Peter Charleton	

**Opening prayer:** Tom Swovick

**Approval of Council Minutes:**

- The minutes of the June 2006 meeting were approved.
- The minutes of the September 2006 meeting were approved with this correction-- the Women's retreat was Sept 8<sup>th</sup> to Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>
- After minutes are approved they will be place on the St Rita Parish website.

**Bishops Hubbard's Letter:** Through out the year the Council will be reading and discussing Bishop Hubbard's Keynote from the April 2006 Pastoral Planning Leaders Day. We looked at the beginning of the speech and shared our thoughts on the problems facing today's Church. Next month we will continue to discuss this document.

**Budget Presentation:** Kathy Johnson, chair of the Finance Council, was introduced. Kathy gave the council a review of the fiscal year 2006 and an update on the 2006-2007 parish budget.

- the annual report for fiscal 2005-2006 will be in the bulletin next weekend (Oct 21~Oct 22)
- the 2005-2006 deficit remaining after the Treasure the Future collection was due mostly the fact that the Diocese changed the timing of some of its charges (5 payments instead of 4)
- quarterly reports for fiscal 2007 will be appearing in the bulletin
- our largest costs are for the maintenance of programs and facilities as well as salaries and benefits
- since there is not a lot of discretion in the current budget we need to be sure that income stays the same or goes up in order to end fiscal 2007 on the positive side

After Kathy's presentation the budget for fiscal 2006~2007 was accepted.

**Annual Meeting:** As the budget was accepted and both Parish Trustees were present (Kathy Johnson and Maureen Morehouse) this meeting of the Parish Council is being recorded as the Diocesan required annual meeting.

**Suggestion Box:** Pat Vargas passed out a summary of all the suggestions received to date (a copy of that file will be included with the minutes). For our information, she gave us a copy of the current form used. After we read the list and through discussion it was decided this list will be given to each chairperson of a Parish standing committee (Finance, Liturgy, Building & Grounds) and to all staff members. Council still needs to look at how a long range proposal will be addressed. It was suggested that we have a matrix of who to ask if you have an idea.

**Liaison Reports:** Due to the length of the budget discussion there were no liaison reports.

**Father Chuck's Comments:**

- Catholic Ministries Appeal:
  - Rick Tatanus is year's chair
  - There is a lot of planning done long before the appeal start
  - This year, in the Narthex, there will have a "thermometer" to show our parish progress
  - A list of contributors, in alphabetical order, will appear in the bulletin. The list will be non cumulative.
  - The goal for the diocese is flat BUT our parish goal is up \$7000
- Strategic Planning Committee
  - Tim Mason is the chair (Tony Barbeau will now replace Tim as chair of Stewardship)
  - Committee will meet with staff on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> to move the plans forward
  - The enhancement of the church building is now part of the over all enhancement of parish life
- New Orleans:
  - Father and Deacon John will be going to the weekend of Oct 21~Oct 22
  - While there they will be meeting with various groups to see what still needs to be done and how we can help them
  - The parish has lost around 20% of it parishioners, mostly those who lived in rental properties

**Closing Prayer: Maureen Morehouse**

Respectfully Submitted;  
Maureen Morehouse  
11/02/06