

Minutes
St. Rita Parish Pastoral Council
January 14, 2008

Attendees:

Tom Bayer	Marti Mauro	Lisa Swovick
Paul Dangler	John O'Connor	Barb Tatanus
Dottie DeLano	Bernadette Rall	Ann Tiberio
Fr. Hoan Dinh	Sr. Katherine Ann Rappl	Dick Wagner
Rich Engel	Jim Sauer	Lauren Wynne
Chris Mauro	Betsy Swovick	

Excused:

Fr. Chuck Latus	Drew Desmarais	John McDermott
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Opening Prayer: Ann Tiberio

Reading of Vision Statement from State of Parish Report: *To nurture and grow the spiritual vitality of each and every Saint Rita parishioner and support them along their life journey as Disciples of Christ while fostering a vibrant, engaging, welcoming faith community.*

Confirmation of November minutes: Minutes were approved with a few small changes

Finance Council Update: Paul Dangler

- Three people on Finance Council working with Parish bookkeeper to get more accurate idea of how budget stands; no Chair yet for Finance Council – suggested, by Council member that we put ad in bulletin if Fr. Chuck not able to get someone; January collections still going well, but won't know for a few months where we stand
- Organization of finances is not as robust as it should be due to change in Parish bookkeeper and instability of Finance Committee members
- Insurance payments are tricky part of budget, as they are being paid throughout the year at this time – not way billing was originally drawn up
- Finance Committee discussed Catholic Courier situation – Fr. Chuck received letter saying the Catholic Courier is discontinuing the weekly inserts in the bulletins – will continue monthly Couriers; no savings to parishes
- Suggested we put in bulletin the monthly cost for Courier and encourage parishioners to pay their family share – about \$15/year per family

Pastor's Report: Fr. Hoan (for Fr. Chuck)

- Update on *Spirit Alive!* – memo to Pastors from Bishop Clark – program meant for ongoing renewal – not just 3 years as movements spell out; Diocese will have materials to support program; Diocese filming a DVD retreat that will be available to each parish
- Three movements of *Spirit Alive!* are: deepening one's relationship with Jesus Christ (Lent 2008 – Pentecost 2008); deepening one's knowledge of the Word (Advent 2008 – Pentecost 2009); deepening one's understanding of Discipleship and Stewardship (Advent 2009 – Pentecost 2010)
- Committee being formed for campaign – Diocese will be sending additional info
- St. Rita's will participate in Lenten Retreats scheduled for March 3, 4, & 5 at St. Rita's, Holy Trinity, St. Paul's and Holy Spirit

Update on Constitution: John O'Connor

- Packet distributed outlining St. Rita's Constitution and the Diocesan guidelines and outline of what needs to be discussed to update our Constitution; changes need to reflect Diocesan wording and concepts
- Proposed that we discuss the documents at February's meeting and approve the changes in March
- Pre read for February meeting to include Constitution for St. Rita's and the Diocesan Guidelines; need to bring our document up to date on wording and membership requirements
- Discussion ensued on what decisions are to be made by Council, what issues the Council should address, and discrepancies in how vacancies are appointed when Constitution says to be made by the Pastor and the Chairperson of the Council; these and other issues need to be ironed out so this Council and the Parish are clear on what the Council's responsibilities truly are

Roundtable Discussion:

- Report on Ellen Smith fundraiser; testament to the kindness of St. Rita's parishioners and the Webster community; many volunteers, a DJ, a magician, singing groups, wine tasting and a lot of fun by all
- Other discussion included: with all the events on Parish calendar, should a committee be formed that parishioners approach regarding space usage; who attends Agenda Committee meetings, what should be brought to Council, letting Parish know through bulletin that we have a Suggestion Box and how to handle liaison reports

Closing Prayer: Paul Dangler