

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Pastoral Council
Agenda**

May 2, 2017, Parish Conference Room, 7pm

Attendees: Fr. Steve, Sharon Mason, Will Fay, Rita Englum, Michael Mendez, Fred Chandler, Chip Garver, Cathy Bickel, Jenny Lurkins, and Tom Mulhern

Absent: Tim Delaney, Paul Malone and Delia Novak

Guests: Cara Swinefurth

Opening Prayer: Fred Chandler

Roll Call and Minutes: William Fay

President's Remarks: William Fay

- School – Update – Cara / Chip
 - Pre-K Class – Currently, one does not exist at STA. As a result, the school would like to start one. A good discussion was had with respect to the potential benefits and risks associated with the creation of a Pre-K class. Ultimately, the Parish Council thought the addition of an additional grade would help the parish reach out to younger families to help increase the size of the parish as well as serve as a good feeder for the school. The school will move forward with the Pre-K.
- Parish Council elections
 - Speak with potential candidates regarding possible running.
- Other
 - Electric door – Ground committee is reviewing the issue next week in order to determine if that can be built into the budget for next year.
 - August meeting – start deep dive
 - Prayer – Kathy Bickel for June

Pastor's Remarks: Fr. Steve

Parishioner Concerns:

Commission and Committee Reports

Spiritual Life: None available

School Commission: Chip Garver

See notes under President's remarks

Peace and Justice: Rita Englum

Society of St Vincent de Paul, St Thomas Aquinas Conference
Meeting of April 6, 2017

Members present: Tom Quinn, Phil and Millie Brady, Bill Larson, Cindy Brown, Bob White, Bill Hubbs, Chris Countryman, Janice Klein, Sally Debono and Jackie Griswold

1). Opening Prayer/Spiritual Reflection

Millie Brady's spiritual message dealt with the upcoming Holy Week, with all its characters, from the Trinity to Mary. "But this is not the end of the story because Easter is coming and Jesus rises from the dead and lives again", according to Millie's handout. "Jesus is our role model, so follow him". The group then continued by discussing what we can learn from Holy week.

2). Presidents Announcements

Update from the Indianapolis SVdP Council:

The council has decided to get its own tax ID number so that it can become independent from the national organization. Council income is \$15,175 above budget as of the end of February 2017 despite lagging general operations and estate income. Two grants totaling \$90,000 have been received. February YTD expenses are below budget by \$52,047. \$78,000 will be needed to upgrade rest rooms and the re-packaging area at the main food pantry. The Council plans to submit a funding request to the Lilly Endowment for this expense.. There will be additional grant requests submitted to the Mike Smith foundation, the CICF Senior Fund and Indiana University Health. At the mid-year Council meeting in St Louis, Angel Ingram of Indianapolis was elected to the national SVdP African American task force. The Boulevard Place Food Pantry has begun the process of changing the hours and days that it will be open.

The St Thomas Aquinas SVdP conference has provided meals for the St Lawrence Changing Lives Forever program, and will provide meals for the St Luke/St Rita CLF program this summer.

3). Treasurer's Report

The beginning balance in the SVdP account as of March 1 was \$5,441.43

\$2,401.00 was received from February STA SVdP collections

\$26.00 was received from the March 2 SVdP meeting

\$4.00 was received from the Poor Box

Total income for the month totaled \$2,431.00

\$700.00 was distributed in March for client rent and utilities

\$150.00 was distributed to our twinning parish in the Dominican Republic

\$325.00 was distributed to the Sunday Cathedral Kitchen

\$500.00 was distributed to the boulevard Place Food Pantry

\$156.31 was spent for Changing Lives Forever lunches

Total expenses for March totaled \$1,831.31

The ending balance in the SVdP account as of April 1 was \$6,041.12

4). Client Support Update and Discussion

5 requests for client assistance were fulfilled in March. A client request for assistance for her electric bill was approved during the meeting.

5). Other Reports

Easter food basket delivery went off without a hitch on April 9. Thank you to all the volunteers who assembled and delivered the baskets, and especially to Bill Larson for once again coordinating the food basket program

Cindy Brown provided a report on the Boulevard Place Food Pantry, and wondered whether we should extend our boundaries beyond our current five parish's, to include other parishes such as Holy Angles. She said that the pantry has the capacity to serve an additional 200 people per month. She will form a committee to explore the questions of extending the pantry boundaries or allowing recipients to come twice a month.

6). Collection for Pantry

Completed

7). Closing Prayer

Parish Life and Youth: Thomas Mulhern

- CYO – The track season has begun. The team had its first meet on April 23, 2017 at Bishop Chatard High School. The second meet will be on April 30, 2017. The season will conclude with the CYO Championships on May 13 and May 17.
- New Parishioner Welcome Dinners – The last new parishioner dinner was held at the end of April. Additional monthly dinners are being planned through the end of the year. It will include all families that have joined the parish within the past three (3) years, as well as any families who have had a child baptized during the same time period.
- Potential Speaker Series – A small team is looking at the possibility of bringing additional speakers to STA to discuss a variety of topics. The team has scheduled meetings with a number of local foundations to see how STA might leverage speakers in town for other organizations.
- Volunteer Activities – We are still trying to understand (at least at a basic level) the number of STA parishioners that volunteer for various ministries as well as the number of hours they dedicated. We will ask the STA Parish Council for additional help in this effort.

Finance: Jenny Lurkins

- Cindy Brown reported on Food Pantry
 - Served 7,359 households in 2016 (80% of those from 34th-46th boundaries)
 - \$75K budget, 40% comes from SVDP conference (STL, IHM, CK, STA, SJOA)
 - Food provided by Gleaners, Sharp Gardens, excess from BR Farmers Mkt, Second Helpings, Eagle Creek Elementary (Pike Township)
 - 45 volunteers from STA
- Tom Quinn reported on SVDP
 - Assisted 445 individuals in 2016 through home visits and telephone contacts
 - \$30K budget, mostly parish/poor box donations
 - Provide food baskets, soup kitchen, household goods, emergency rent/utility assistance
 - STA has 69 members (15 active, 24 contributing)
- Approved proposal from School Commission for 2017/18 school year, pending further financial details
- Financial presentation to Parish scheduled for 4/29 & 4/30 after each mass
- Looking for two new finance committee members for July 2017 (3-year term)

Financial Package Notes - March 2017

Executive Summary

- YTD Revenues of \$1,840,965 are \$21,072 under budget and \$15,073 less than prior year to date.
- YTD Net Operating Income of \$422,975 is \$45,356 under budget and \$50,025 less than prior year to date.
- YTD Sunday Collections of \$542,059 is \$28,374 under budget but \$6,247 better than prior year to date.
- YTD total tuition of \$900,249 is \$51,192 under budget and \$23,426 less than prior year to date actual. A much larger difference was noted the past 2 months, most of which was attributed to timing and has reversed. The remaining difference is due to the budgeted # of students vs actual.
- YTD Fundraising of \$235,095 is \$16,454 better than budget. This reflects recent transfer of monies from elevator fund and SausageFest into operating income. The \$20,000 elevator grant was recently received (in March) but did not get transferred into income in March. It is now expected to be recognized in April.
- Total Operating Expense of \$1,417,990 is tracking very closely on a YTD basis with budget of \$1,393,706 with no significant differences.
- YTD Benefits expense of \$199,806 is \$21,634 worse than budget, which is consistent with previous months. This is partly due to 5 covered persons electing health coverage that weren't anticipated by the budget.
- YTD Capital Improvement Expense of \$296,718 has exceeded budget by \$48,276.

Balance Sheet

- Total cash on hand of \$395,578, which is an increase of approximately \$46,000 from February.

- Early advance tuition, fees, and tech fees have been collected and are deferred.
- \$102,916 remains in Gala Deferred Revenue.

\$182,112 in restricted funds, including \$20,000 for Elevator (the grant), \$25,862 for Tech fund, \$29,049 for STA Athletic Fund, \$20,429 for HSA (net), and \$32,568 for Haiti (net).

Faith Formation: Michael Mendez

No report

Stewardship: Fred Chandler

STA is still working to achieve its goal for the United Catholic Appeal. 141 households have pledged \$48,317 toward the goal of \$49,634.

The spring Stewardship campaign began on April 29-30 with the presentation of a report from the Finance Committee. Stewardship letters have been placed in the mail. On May 6-7 Rachel Hoffman will talk about her choice to become a member of the STA community. Parishioners will be asked to return intention forms by May 13-14.

The Capital Campaign Committee has had three meetings and committee members will soon be contacting several STA parishioners as part of the “silent” campaign. Full-fledged parish involvement should happen by late summer. The campaign is running ahead of its early monetary goals with nearly one-third of the million-dollar goal pledged.

The Haiti Committee has learned that it and the Friends of Belle-Riviere are the beneficiaries of the estate of Thomas & Mary Aldridge. Although the final amount of this bequest is not known, it will allow STA to purchase a new truck for St. Jean Marie Vianney parish, rebuild the kindergarten destroyed in the 2010 earthquake and, hopefully, provide teachers with a pay raise.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Closing Prayer: Fred Chandler

Next Meeting: June 6, 2017, 7 pm, Parish Conference Room
Opening and Closing Prayer: To Be Announced