

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Pastoral Council

April 10, 2017, Parish Conference Room, 7pm

Attendees: Michael Menendez, Jenny Lurkins, Delia Novak, Fred Chandler, Sharon Mason, Will Fay, Father Steve

Absent: Tim Delaney, **Paul Malone, Cathy Bickel**
Rita Englum, Chip Garver

Guests:

Opening Prayer: Michael Mendez

Roll Call and Minutes: William Fay

President's Remarks: William Fay

- Parish Council – Format
- Parish Council elections

Sharon offered the following run down for Parish Council:

- Replacements will be needed for Paul and Will. Sharon and Cathy indicated that they will be running for re-election.
- This leaves two open slots that we should/could recruit from the committees and the Parish at large.
- Elections will be held after the masses on May 20th and 21st.
- Discussion on “discernment” for the Council focused on the role of the Committee head to propose his or her replacement, with the Council is responsible for vetting nominees for Commission and Committee heads when no nominee forwarded by Commission/Committee Chair.
- Lenten Supper Update: There was an increase of three additional supper hosts from last year for a total of 16 host, who hosted 200-plus families. Sharon added that Tom was instrumental in getting school families to host suppers. **Note:** Michael raised the issue of doing some Lenten suppers in the Bethany Room next year for those who might be more comfortable with that format.

Pastor's Remarks: Fr. Steve

Commission and Committee Reports

Peace and Justice: Rita Englum
Creation Care Ministry Report to Parish Council
April 10, 2017

The Creation Care Ministry has been assisting members of the Capital Campaign to include energy saving measures into the Capital Campaign. While the ultimate goal is make the St. Thomas Aquinas campus as energy efficient as possible, an interim goal is to get Energy Star certification for the buildings on the STA campus.

The Creation Care Ministry held a confidential paper shredding and recycling event on January 21st. Although we were hoping to do a little better, we had 16 people bring us paper to shred that totaled about 1,000 pounds.

In keeping with the archdiocesan initiative for Lent this year, the Creation Care Ministry brought a program entitled Lent 4.2 to St. Thomas Aquinas for Lent 2017. The program this year consisted of weekly bulletin inserts and a series of speakers related to four of the weekly topics. The speakers we had are as follows:

- March 12: Dave Miner of the Indy Hunger Network spoke on Food Insecurity in Indiana
- March 19: Sister Norma Rocklage of Marian University spoke on Christian Simplicity
- March 26: Dr. Indra Frank, Director of Environmental Health and Water Policy at the Hoosier Environmental Council spoke about Water.
- April 02: Jodi Perras, Senior Campaign Representative for Sierra Club's Beyond Coal campaign spoke on the topic of the environmental consequences of energy production.

All the programs were well received and we had 15 – 35 participants at each one.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Pike
Director, St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry

HAITI COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING ON FEBRUARY 15, 2017

Present: Fred Chandler, Doris Chandler, Steve Zentner, Clare Skevington, Mark Varnau, Mary Rohrman, Sarah Batt, Eric Atkins, Jacqueline Griswold, and Steve Bezy

1. Opening Prayer: "Prayer for The People of Haiti," was read by Mary.

2. Introduction of new members:

Rhiannon Amodeo-Bankert (not present)

Eric Atkins

Sarah Batt

Jacqueline Griswold

The committee is excited to have had such a positive response to our plea for new membership. We are looking forward to this new boost of enthusiasm, energy, and experience.

3. Minutes of last meeting on December 13, 2016 are approved with one amendment. Item number 2c should read “The Archdiocese Mission Office has donated \$5000 for anything Haiti related.”
4. Treasurer’s Report:
 - a. December balance---\$25657.70
 - b. Income, general fund, variety of sources---\$6030.
 - c. Income, for school lunch program---\$1685.
 - d. January appeal---\$3910.
 - e. Memorial donations---\$9030.
 - f. Total income---\$20655.
 - g. Expenses in January---\$6165.58
 - h. Expenses in February---\$7743.74
 - i. Balance to date--- \$32403.
5. Sea Container Project:
 - a. “Rays of Hope” is another option to schedule use of a sea container.
 - b. They do not limit delivery to one set of dates.
 - c. The cost is approximately \$8.00 per square foot.
 - d. Collection dates will be 4th-5th, 11th-12th, and 18th-19th, three weekends.
 - e. Stuff bulletins with information on suggested donation items.
 - f. Use STA Update.
 - g. Friends of Bell-Riviere will handle the shoes from Kathy Latimer.
 - h. Project will be called “The Joe Zelenka Sea Container for Haiti.”
6. Our annual Appreciation Sip & Serve for the parish is tentatively planned for April 22-23, dates will be checked out.
7. SRB

Parish Life and Youth: Thomas Mulhern

- **CYO – The volleyball season is now over. Six (6) teams competed. The track season has begun.** Approximately thirty (30) students are participating. The STA team does joint practices with the teams from St. Joan of Arc, St. Matthew and Christ the King.

- New Parishioner Welcome Dinners – The last new parishioner dinner was held in mid-March. Four (4) families were able to attend. Additional dinners are being planned. 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.
- 12 Stranger Dinner – Currently, plans are underway to conduct a dinner every two months, post Lenten suppers. The one consideration is balancing the efforts with the New Parishioner Dinners.
- 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

STA Finance Committee – March 25, 2017

- Approved 2017-18 School Budget
- Reviewed status of pending capital projects
- 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 - February 2017

Executive Summary

- YTD Revenues of \$1,592,978 are \$121,399 under budget but \$3,001 greater than prior year to date.
- YTD Net Operating Income of \$379,642 is \$110,297 under budget and \$48,855 less than prior year to date.
- YTD Sunday Collections of \$490,450 is \$22,971 under budget but \$12,037 better than prior year to date.
- YTD total tuition of \$736,944 is \$131,763 under budget but in line with prior year to date actual. As mentioned in last meeting, this is a function of the monthly budget for tuition not matching the timing of actual receipts. Last year this reversed in March, and the same is expected to occur this year.
- YTD Fundraising of \$229,539 is \$16,065 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 and should be transferred in the March books.
- Total Operating Expense of \$1,213,336 is tracking very closely on a YTD basis with budget of \$1,224,438 with no significant differences.
- YTD Benefits expense of \$173,660 is \$16,620 worse than budget. This is partly due to 5 covered persons electing health coverage that weren't anticipated by the budget.

- TYD Capital Improvement Expense of \$291,441 has exceeded budget by \$45,997.

Balance Sheet

- Total cash on hand of \$349,593, which is a decrease of approximately \$64,500 from January.
- Mocas increased approximately \$9,100. Shors increased approximately \$13,700.
- Early advance tuition, fees, and tech fees have been collected and are deferred.
- \$98,495 remains in Gala Deferred Revenue.
- \$188,573 in restricted funds, including \$20,000 for Elevator (the grant), \$23,380 for Tech fund, \$34,418 for HSA (net), and \$38,008 for Haiti (net).

Faith Formation: Michael Mendez

- 17 children are getting First Communion on May 6th
- One couple going through Marriage Prep
- Religious education is starting back up after a break

Stewardship: Fred Chandler

- STA continues to inch its way toward its goal for the United Catholic Appeal. 131 households have pledged \$47,432 toward the goal of \$49,634.
- The spring Stewardship campaign will begin on April 29-30 with the presentation of a report from the Finance Committee. 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 two 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.

Old Business:

New Business:

Closing Prayer: Michael Mendez

Next Meeting: May 2, 2017, 7 pm, Parish Conference Room
Opening and Closing Prayer: To Be Announced