

Saint Michael the Archangel Parish Council
Parish Council Minutes
December 14, 2009

Present: Msgr. Tolentino, Jane Molloy (Chair), Bob Johnson, Bob Ebling, Anka Ostrega, Jim Robertson, Michael Jones, Carolyn Aliaga, Timothy Gondre-Lewis, Matt Mueller, Lilian Juarez Cordero, Wendy Alfaro, Aimee Valenzuelo, Patty Marroquin, Rob Noland, Charles Eames, Sharon Knight, Veronica Menjivar, Deacon Steven Frye and Joanie Heavey

Absent: Deacon Roberto Salgado, Edwin Mendez, Reverend Daniel Malaver, Kitty Ealey, Tony Calaro and Deacon Ronald Ealey.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jane Molloy at 7:05 p.m.

The Council members recited the St. Michael the Archangel's Mission and Vision Statements.

Opening Prayer. The opening prayer was led by Monsignor Tolentino.

Approval of Minutes

- The motion was made to accept the minutes from the November meeting; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Council Subgroup Recommendations on Church and School Financial Issues

- Rob Noland, Michael Jones and Bob Ebling presented the findings and recommendations that they made to Monsignor regarding the financial issues facing the parish. Monsignor Tolentino welcomed their report and endorsed the recommendations. Among the principal findings and recommendations were the following:
 - The parish cannot sustain continued deficit spending by the school; deficits are crowding out and preventing spending on other critical needs of the parish.
 - While an earnest effort is being made to increase enrollment and fundraising, greater effort needs to be made and should include sustained pulpit appeals.
 - If the enrollment and funding for the school continue to reflect less than 225 students, then the school should be phased out and closed at the conclusion of the 2009-2010 school year.
 - The sanctuary's condition is deteriorating and immediate expenditures of \$125,000 are necessary to update conditions and eliminate safety hazards.
 - Increased giving by parishioners should be encouraged from the pulpit and should target a 30% increase in the use of envelopes (currently used by less than 40%).
- A robust discussion followed the presentation of the subgroup report and focused on school plans, the need to coordinate parish fundraising, the importance of Catholic education, support for maintaining the school if the parish can afford it, and the need to improve the financial integrity of the parish.

Offertory Update

- Bob Ebling reported on the progress of the offertory program and noted that no results are available yet.

Forward in Faith Funds Status

- Monsignor Tolentino updated the Council on the current status of Forward in Faith funds received by the parish. A copy of the report he referenced is attached.

Parish Web Site Update and Discussion

- Anka Ostrega and Timothy Gondre-Lewis began a discussion of the parish web site and related communication ministry matters. Since time was limited, it was agreed that the discussion would be continued at the next Council meeting.

Pastor's Report

- Monsignor Tolentino distributed an article on parish councils and asked the members to read it prior to the next Council meeting in anticipation of a discussion of the article at the meeting.

Ministry Liaison Reports

- Ministry reports were received by the Hispanic Committee and the Pastoral Care and Community Outreach Ministry.
- Council Liaisons were encouraged to submit reports next month.

Agenda Items for Next Month's Meeting

- Continuation of discussion of parish web site (Tim Gondre-Lewis and Anka Ostrega)
- Discussion of Lenten evangelization program (Deacon Ron Ealey)
- Discussion of parish council article.

Date of Next Council Meeting: Monday – January 11, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory Conference Room

With no other business coming before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Deacon Steven Frye led the closing prayer.

PLEASE remember that the SIGN IN sheet is on the table as you enter the Conference Room

Approved, January 11, 2010 (with Forward in Faith attachment)