



April 9, 2010
Parish Pastoral Council

March, 2010 PPC Meeting Minutes for Review /Comments

Our Parish Pastoral Council met on March 15, 2010, at 7:00 pm, in the Parish Center. Present were: Fr Frank, Dave Hilko, Dana Vance, Joe Haley, Tom Micininski, Tony Rivera, Brian Graziano and Tom Kinsella.

Father Frank provided our opening prayer and commented that we are now one-half way through Lent.

The main purpose of this meeting, in addition to normal business, was to review and continue to construct our Parish Mission Statement and Vision Statements. Copies of draft mission and vision statements were provided.

Dave presented the financial report. The Archdiocese (AD) is requiring immediate replacement of electrical wiring in the parish. Tom M. stated that bids have been requested. Dave said the estimates are about \$80,000.00 and we have no choice but to proceed. He said we hope parishioners will see the need for this and help with the cost. It was mentioned that we may have to take a loan from the AD. Bill asked if "Time of Your Life" funds might help, but this was dismissed since those funds are already earmarked for other expenses and to replace \$3,000.00, weekly collection shortages. Bill asked that the finance information in our weekly bulletin be easier to understand and not be so subtle. He added that if we present a clear picture of our status and needs, people may better respond. Tom K asked if we could do anything with the vacant school building and it was agreed that we could not at this time. As a parish facility plan is developed, attention will be given to all property issues.

Brian presented information regarding our draft Parish Vision Statements (PVS). The three main areas of our Vision Statement are: Evangelization, Helping the Needy and Religious Education. The Education part of our PVS will be presented by Cathy at our next meeting. As a dynamic, active and transient faith community, in the heart of Lincoln Park, we: offer everyone an opportunity to build a deeper relationship with Christ, through our liturgies and ministries, serve as Peacemakers and be a voice of the poor. Brian provided a handout that is available upon request, summarizing branding committee efforts and results. Dave commented that in some areas, like Social Outreach, we may want to go slowly and that this was a long-term project. It was suggested that we build on what we already have and do now. The role of the Sharing Parish program was explained and Tom K stressed that this was a mutual sharing, "give & take" relationship. Fr. Frank said that the Social Justice efforts have already started and a meeting is set for

next Monday. Dana suggested that we use a short term participation approach for some while a corps of supporters could commit to a longer involvement. She suggested that we make opportunities available for people who can donate little or much time, etc. Fr Frank suggested that we begin recruiting now for ministries reflected in our PVS, with a goal to bring in new parish members. Discussion was held on pros and cons of waiting until September when we plan to have a ministry information fair. Joe suggested that we make announcements and place an information booth in the gathering space for a couple of weeks, as a way to share information about our PVS and recruit people to support it. It was suggested that PPC members handout flyers with information and answer questions, after Masses. We talked about doing the announcements on May 2 (First Communion) and May 9 (Mother's Day) and agreed that a homily on Stewardship would be appropriate. Fr Frank asked what we wanted to do on May 23 and it was suggested that a take-away card in English and Spanish be available. It was agreed that we would concentrate on PVS and share ideas prior to our next meeting. Bill and Tom suggested using UTUBE and the video from the annual fund raiser to spread the word of our Parish.

Fr Frank stated that we have to get St Teresa of Avila on the map, get people fired up about being here and convince them, and the general community plus the AD, that this special Parish is a needed, active part of Lincoln Park. He suggested that , as a community, we write letters to the Bishops, announce our activities in the AD Newspaper, and remake our image on Armitage. We discussed forming a closer relationship with the Alderman's Office and inquire what we can do to help our community. It was also suggested that we plan & serve a Thanksgiving meal and be a point for Christmas parade support, etc, to let people know we are here and what we are about. Bill asked what was the proposed budget for the St Teresa of Avila statue he was researching. This was unknown, but expenses have to be kept to a very minimum. He said he will contact monument manufacturers. Brian said the sign on the front of the Church, would be ready soon and will change the look of the property along Armitage Avenue.

Our next PPC meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 12, 2010.

Fr. Frank concluded with a prayer.