

Minutes of St. Rose Parish Pastoral Council April 1, 2008

Members Present:

Fr. Ramón Pons, Fr. Denis O'Sullivan, Alfonso Alarcon, Darin Schettler, Teresa Vassallo, Fr. Gerry Gormley, Tony Dicolen, Betty Wychocki, Rich Emig, Peter Leveque. **Visitors:** 7 parishioners present.

1. Opening Prayer:

Darin opened the meeting with a passage from the Gospel of John.

2. Public Comments:

- Request for a sign which includes mass times, etc. in the parking lot on the 10th St. side.
- Request made to accept statue of St. Rose of Lima from St. Eugene's and have it installed on lawn near gate to rectory.
- Complimentary remarks from parishioner regarding recent Lenten weekly services.

3. Parish Festival Update. Report by Maridel Perlas

- Maridel invited as festival director to update council on status of event and to offer suggestions for how the parish council can best support this event.
- Festival committee works year round to prepare for event. ~100 volunteers needed.
- Net Income: Silent Auction (7 – 10K), Yard Sale (5K), Raffle Tickets (7 – 9K)
Total Net Income (20 – 25K) Festival income to parish. Currently parish subsidizes St. Rose School ~32K/yr.
- Current goals for festival include: increasing silent auction donations, increased promotion of event, increased effort to recruit volunteers, especially for 12-4 slot.
- Suggestions to enhance festival included: 1) Mail additional book of raffle tickets to parishioners, increasing donation from \$20 to \$25 or \$30. 2) Increase involvement of Hispanic community (possible conflict with 9/16 Latin American Independence Day) 3) Include 2 reps. from Hispanic community on festival committee. 4) Publicize event at other parishes; promote event in public areas to invite Hispanic community, with ads translated to Spanish. 5) Promotion of festival should be as a parish function vs. school function 6) Serve tamales as part of main meal to help blend menu 7) Promote festival at school in August to solicit volunteers.
- Fr. Denis expressed gratitude on behalf of the parish to Patrick & Maridel Perlas for their hard work and leadership of the festival over the past 8 yrs.

4. Parish Outreach to Community

- 04/13/08 Harvest for the Hungry Garden (Teresa @ 11:00)
- 06/15/08 (?) Movimiento Revolucionario Indigena (Alberto @ 12:30)
- 08/03/08 TBD (Darin @ 9:00)
- 10/11/08 TBD (Rich @ 5:30)
- 12/07/08 TBD (Betty @ 7:30)

5. Review of Town Hall Meeting Comments:

- 49 parishioners in total attended.
- Comments that were repeated included 1) How financial shortfall is being addressed 2) Over utilizing same pool of volunteers 3) Permanent signage for stained glass windows. 4) Renovation of old church building
- Comments generally fell into the following categories 1) Parish finances 2) Liturgy 3) Community building/Hospitality/Social life of parish 4) Parish grounds-renovation of old church, security, signage.
- Fr. Ramón noted increased movement of Hispanic parishioners between masses and between parishes. Some St. Rose parishioners invited to attend OLG. Noted increasing attendance at 12:30 mass, with attendance at 5:30 & 6:00 masses remaining steady. Reported that the Hispanic community currently is working without a budget.

6. Council Response to Town Hall Meeting Comments:

- Written response to be published for parishioners by end of April (Teresa & Peter) Possibility of additionally posting info. on website.
- Current priorities of council and initial plan for how to address these priorities:

A. Parish Finances:

Parish Council to request the following of the Finance Council:

- Finance council representative to address parishioners on a regular basis regarding finances. Rep. from finance council to meet with parish council as needed.
- Finance council to produce a sound parish budget.
- Quarterly written financial reports.
- Plan to address financial shortfall.

B. Lack of Volunteers/Involvement:

Challenges sited regarding recruitment of volunteers included:

- No clear initial point of entry for volunteers. Suggestion made to have a volunteer coordinator help clarify how to get involved with specific ministries.
- Volunteers are not always suited for the role they're interested in. Ministry leaders need to have some criteria and follow-up with volunteers to appropriately place volunteers.
- Modifying schedule does not necessarily increase involvement or attendance as seen with the change in Lenten services this year. Attempt will be made to educate parishioners regarding upcoming anointing of the sick mass toward goal of increasing parish participation.

Parish Council's plan to address lack of volunteers/involvement of parishioners:

- Host a Ministry Fair on Pentecost Sunday May 11th, after all masses.
- To be organized by Fr. Denis, Peter, Rich.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled: Tuesday, May 27th 7 – 9 p.m.