

**St. Vincent DePaul Parish
Parish Council Minutes
October 14, 2009**

Members Present: Dennis Wells, Mary Ann Gerbin, Rich Gerbin, Barb Thomas, Dennis Turek, Linda McCracken, Jackie Hittner, Craig Adams, Tish Hanewinkel, & Chris Hanewinkel.

Guests Present: Sharon Hodge, Linda Janson, Carolyn Hubler, Bob Zurfluh

Opening Prayer: Barb Thomas

Minutes: Minutes of the previous meeting of September 9th, 2009 were accepted as written.

Pastor's Report: None

Information Exchange With Parish Committees:

Sharon Hodges reporting for Faith Formation

- ❖ Undertaken Communion for the sick
- ❖ Coordinating All Souls Dinner
- ❖ Lunch with Santa December 6th
- ❖ Theological Standup (to resume in January 2010)
- ❖ Protecting God's Children Program
- ❖ Planning Lenten Speakers
- ❖ St. Louis Journal Newspapers want your news (14 days prior to Wednesday publish date).

Carolyn Hubner reporting for the Liturgy Committee:

- ❖ Advent Planning
 - ❖ Focus/theme will be revival and renewal: Taking the best of what we have.
 - ❖ Food drive
- ❖ All Saints Day Procession to include children dressed as favorite saint
- ❖ All Souls Procession of Light and will have Scroll of the Dead

Bob Zurfluh reporting for the Hospitality Committee

- ❖ Distributed St. Vincent Church pamphlets to downtown hotels and those in immediate area
- ❖ Welcome brochures are needed. Remind father.
- ❖ Provide Pizza for 4:30 Saturday Mass about once a quarter.
- ❖ Pot Luck Dinner: St. Vincent Day_ Bring a friend!
- ❖ Cards to homebound
- ❖ Offer to help any other committee
- ❖ Suggestion for ushers to invite baptismal family to bring offertory gifts to altar

Linda Janson reporting for the Fund Raising Committee

- ❖ Trivia Night (October 17) - 32 tables sold. Should be better profit since food not provided.
- ❖ Turkey Fest - Deb Monterey will be featured from 1:30 -3:30. Will do spots on KMOX.

Discussion surrounding fund raising included Dennis Turek speaking about three people in the parish that stepped forward to offer specific kinds of help. Dennis had talked to all three:

Kerry Lyman offered to lend her marketing expertise to do a six months study on marketing the parish.
Barbra Zawier offered help with writing grants.

Sr. Teresa Daly offered "anything she could do". She has expertise in Parish Administration and ministry

The action that came from this was a recommendation by the parish council to have Father Otto consider using Kerry to work up a marketing plan for the parish with Kerry reporting to Otto monthly.

There were many suggestions made regarding ways to grow the parish, accomplish volunteer tasks and raise money:

- ❖ Have a Town Hall Meeting_ it's been years.
- ❖ Call people directly, especially new parishioners and request their help on specific projects, committees, etc.
- ❖ Be more creative with scheduling so that people that work during the day can participate too.
- ❖ Cut expenses 10% in order to balance any short fall in funds.
- ❖ Could local businesses fill our pantry?
- ❖ Marketing: be sure the public knows that we provide so many meals per month for the homeless as well as the other outreach programs.
- ❖ Should the parish have a Face Book page?
- ❖ Should the parish hang plastic donation bags on residential doorknobs all over the city and pickup food donations at a predetermined time later like the Boy Scouts do?
- ❖ Many older people are looking for fulfilling things to do. Have we tapped the retired people in St. Louis as members or for donations of time or money?

Next meeting – November 11th, 2009

The meeting was completed with a prayer from Dennis Wells.