

**St. Vincent DePaul Church
Parish Council Meeting
December 8, 2010**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barb Thomas, Bill Pues, Mary Vetter, Jackie Hittner, Jeff Pike, Rich and Mary Ann Gerbin. Dennis Wells and Fr. Otto.

ABSENT: Linda McCrackin, Craig Adams

Opening Prayer: Fr. Otto at 7:25.

Minutes: approved from November 10 meeting

Pastor's Report: We have \$3300 towards the \$5000 to hire a Grant Writer. We will ask one more time and then an anonymous donor offered to make up the difference to be able to attain the goal.

Introduction of Task Force Members: Jim and Jane Lammers, Pat Poehling, Bill Pues, Barb Zawier. The members not able to be there are Dennis Turek, Kerry Winkleman, Sister Roch Rocklage, Sister Teresa Daly. The purpose tonight is to present.

They told us that had input received from many, with expertise in varied backgrounds....financial, business, as well as staff.

It began with establishing goals to increase membership and make necessary improvements around the Fall of 2009. By asking people for input, they received more data than they anticipated. Trying to break it down into categories, they met with Fr. Otto and decided that there isn't anyone currently here to direct this plan. The next step was to find a Development Director. That is Plan A. Without a Director, we would go to Plan B. This is a 5 year plan to be revised every year. Then we need to decide who would "own the Plan". There are 2 separate time lines. Needs for NOW and

needs for LATER. The first recommendation is to re-structure the Parish Council to include Chairperson from all Committees to be part of the Parish Council. The Plan calls for 3 new Committees. They are

1. Facilities Committee
2. Marketing Committee
3. Membership Growth and Development.

There was a new concept explained by Barb Zawier. At St. Pius, there is an Ambassadors Program, formerly the Hospitality Committee. People are chosen who are friendly and outgoing. They are trained to welcome new people. They introduce them to the Pastor. They take note if they haven't been to church for a while and make calls to people. This all helps them feel welcome. It gives ownership to the friendliness of our Parish.

The Task Force will stay involved with the implementation of the Plan. Jane Lammers will be the Point person. They will help train the Ambassadors.

The Parish Council was given a copy of the 5 year plan. It still has the 5 goals we have discussed.

We proposed studying the Plan and come back together to discuss it. Talked about holding a Town Hall Meeting on Jan. 23 to show the people of the Parish where we are and bring them up to speed. But after further discussion, we did not feel that we would be ready to do that at that time. So, the next Parish Council Meeting WITH the Task Force will be Jan. 23 after the 11:00 Mass.(approx. 12:30) It will most likely be for several hours as we try to fine tune it to present it to our Parish as soon as possible.

There is some consideration of the reorganizing of the Social Ministries, aka the Poor Fund, that was discussed.

Mary Vetter asked if we can be sure that this plan will continue and live on if current things change, because the Parish Council is an advisory committee. Fr. Otto said if there is a new Pastor, there is no guarantee that it would continue. But if the Plan is working, it would be foolish to do so, especially if it is a viable plan. He reminded us that the Pastor does have the final word.

Fr. Otto said this project is HUGE and wants to thank the Task Force for all the hours and hard work. It will be an exciting time for St. Vincent's.

Mary Vetter told us about a Cookie Sale that would be held after all Masses on Sunday, Dec. 19th. They will sell containers of cookies for \$5.00

Next Meeting is Jan. 12th.
Joint Meeting will be Jan. 23.

Meeting ended at 8:30.