

**ST. VINCENT DePAUL CHURCH
SPECIAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2011**

OPENING PRAYER: Fr. Otto at 12:10

MEMBERS PRESENT; Linda McCrackin, Jackie Hittner, Rich Gerbin, Mary Ann Gerbin, Jane Lammers, Bill Pues, Dennis Wells, Fr. Otto.

ABSENT: Mary Vetter, Jeff Pike, Craig Adams.

GUESTS: Dennis Turek, Jim Lammers, Tony Leone.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Hospitality-Ray Martin

Faith Formation-Jan Leone

Finance-Bob Bishof & Tom McCrackin

MSO- Tom McCrackin

Fundraising-Linda Janson

Father Otto explained how long this project has been going on. It began about 18 months ago with trying to find new ways to raise money and increase membership. It evolved into a huge ordeal. This Strategic Plan is the future of our Parish. He told us he tried to stay out of the development as to not influence or color it in any way. He feels that our Committees are vital to the life of our Parish.

Dennis Turek then passed out an overview of the Plan to all present. He told us it began in the fall of 2009. They established the Task Force in October of that year. They received about 120 participating comment sheets, telling both likes and dislikes.

From that, they outlined 5 major milestones:

Goal 1. Current membership

Goal 2. New membership

Goal 3. Fiscal responsibility

Goal 4. Funding sources

Goal 5. Marketing

The Parish Council has also been working on some goals. Dennis Turek and Dennis Wells have been working to merge the 2 documents. The Council worked on some ideas that were not included in the Task Force's findings. Communication between the Committees is crucial to having a cohesive working environment. It was decided to re-structure the Parish Council, including the Chair from each of the 5 Committees. They will become members of the Parish Council. As members, they must be able to direct and carry out the goals and actions of this Plan. We then received a new list of Committees, adding several new ones. Jane then explained the organization of the new structure. The new ones have not been defined yet and have not been established. Jan Leone asked about the Service to the Poor committee. As of now, it will cover the sandwich window, meals, Food Pantry. It was mentioned that all Committees should have a Mission Statement to explain and define their purpose. If that is not the case, they should work on one.

The Council inherited all the data and they grouped it into 4 categories and who would be included in them:

1. Spiritual Formation-Liturgy, Faith Formation, worship
2. Service to the Poor- meals, improving services.
3. Communities- improve relationships with parishioners, neighborhoods.
4. Leadership- clergy/staff, establish accountability, job descriptions for all positions.

There is overlapping information and there will probably be 9 categories when it is completed. We hope to have a final plan to be adopted by June 8th.

All Chairpersons are invited to the April 13th meeting as voting members.

Linda then recapped the meeting and stressed how important all of the Committees are to our Church. Next weekend, March 19-20, Linda will speak after all Masses to explain where we stand

and inform the general membership about how we will move forward.

Tom is concerned about the future of the Men's Service Organization. (MSO). They are not as active as they once were and have not had much leadership lately. He is worried that it may not survive. Hoping to possibly re-energize the Club.

Tony expressed concern with our website, not being kept current, has old information on it.

Meeting ended at 1:45.

Next meeting: April 13th.

Minutes per Mary Ann Gerbin

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: Linda McCrackin