

Final
August 26th, 2010
MEETING MINUTES OF
THE PASTORAL COUNCIL OF
ST. SIMON THE APOSTLE

Meeting Attendees:

Tim Heck	Steve Koers	Pete Cerar	Maggie Uhrich	Fr. Bill Marks
Mark Taylor	Kevin James	Jackie Pirnat	Pierre Fox	Will Riley
Randy Boon	Maggie McCabe	Pat Hurley		

1. Call to Order

The Pastoral Council (the “Council”) of St. Simon the Apostle (“St. Simon”) met on August 26th, 2010. Pierre Fox called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer / Faith Sharing

Fr. Bill provided an opening prayer and the Council shared their reflections on the Mother Teresa on what would have been her 100th birthday.

3. Meeting Minutes

A draft copy of the meeting minutes from the June meeting was reviewed. Upon motion duly made (Pete Cerar) and seconded (Mark Taylor), the minutes were approved.

4. Old Business

Construction Update

Construction has commenced. Parking issues were noted. Steve Koers will work with Greg Chiles on construction sign mention announcing expansion of Parish facilities.

50th Anniversary Celebration

Kathy Wright is leading planning committee. Committee will consist of members from each commission for year-long “praise/pray/service” initiative. Each committee will take part in planning. January 2011 will be official kick off. The Commission will be formed in September.

5. New Business

Parish Communication

A discussion regarding the need for “active” communication within the parish vs passive communication (ie bulletin announcements) commenced. Council identified this as major objective in order to engage a larger number of parishioners into parish activities. A better process for consistent and organized email communication was noted as an integral part of the process. Multiple committees have overlapping and incomplete email distribution lists was also cited as a problem. Further discussions on how to improve the process and who will own the project will be the subject of future meetings. Flat screen TVs for the Narthex are planned if the capital campaign is successful.

Greeters

To help facilitate a more welcome environment for the parish, training of greeters including opening doors prior to Mass was discussed. This will fall under the Faith Formation Committee.

Scholarships

Approximately 30 families receive financial assistance. This number is expected to increase dramatically as the economy continues to struggle. Donovan Yarnall briefed the committee on his experience with financial aid. An increase in tuition must also be met with a rise in tuition assistance. Assistance must follow children through the entire eight years of school. Currently \$20,000 is budgeted for this item. All but \$3000 has been spent for the 2010-2011 school year. Fr. Bill suggested a scholarship program for the 2011 school year that would include a fundraiser with the entire balance of funds being depleted each year. It is believed that many parishioners are more inclined to donate to direct scholarship vs. the capital campaign. Pete Cerar received support for having scholarships also being available for religious education. The current approximate enrollments are as follows:

425 Parish Families with an least one enrolled Child at SS School

1000 Parish Families with non SS school age children

75 Parish Families with non SS school children enrolled in Religious Ed

Small Church Communities

The discussion continued on how to provide better adult programs for the parish. Small Church Communities was discussed at length. Unlike Lenten Faith Sharing and CRHP groups, which are intentional groups, Small Church Communities provide a forum for parishioners to bond through faith sharing and service. The Council agreed to pursue this direction. A relationship with a sister church was discussed but it was decided there was not enough financial resources and support at St. Simon at this time. To help start this process, Will Riley will be meeting with the facilitators of the Alpha program to possibly bring this program to Saint Simon. A report from the Evangelization Committee at the next PC meeting will be forthcoming.

6. Commission Reports and Goals

Goals of Each Commission was discussed will be part of the minutes.

Pastor's Report

No report.

Finance Council Report

See report

Administration Commission

See report.

School Commission

See report.

Youth Commission

See report

Faith Formation Commission

See report

Parish Life Commission

See report.

Evangelization Commission

See report

Athletic Commission

No Report

7. **Adjournment**

Steve closed the meeting with a prayer and adjourned the meeting at 9:41p.m.