

**Saint Mark Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes
June 23, 2011**

Staff Present

Fr. George Plaster	✓
Mary Lynn Cavanaugh	✓

At-Large Members & Representatives

Suzanne Belcas	
Harold Bowling	✓
Bob Cross	✓
Mary Fortress	✓
Chris Hurley	✓
Bob Jones	✓
Pete Masengale	
Carol Pitzer	✓
George Wichlinski	✓

Scripture/ Shared Prayer

Chris Hurley

Chris read from the Gospel of John. Jesus speaks of His body and blood in the Holy Eucharist. Whoever receives the Holy Eucharist will be raised up on the last day; whoever eats this bread will live forever.

Roll Call/ Approval of Minutes

Carol Pitzer

The Minutes of the May 2011 meeting were read, corrected, and approved. New members were announced: Dawn Collier, Darrell Gossett, and Amy Frederick. Suzanne and Chris, who have reached the end of their terms, were thanked for their service.

Pastoral Comments

Father George / Mary Lynn Cavanaugh

- The parish facilities were struck by lightning Monday. Electrical systems were damage, but the damage is covered by insurance. Some electrical problems remain. The phone system is back but voice mail not yet restored. The doors being fixed, and network access is spotty.
- The Funfest is coming up in July. Many volunteers are needed.
- The parish is now in summer mode. Staff is busy organizing and getting rejuvenated.
- The parish picnic will be held August 21at 4:00 at Beech Grove Park.

Pillar/Committee Reports

A. Social Life

Harold Bowling

- Funfest is coming up.

- Volunteers are needed. Anyone interested in helping can contact chairpersons Pete Masengale or Jesse Cleary.
- Raffle tickets are coming out this weekend.
- This year will be different from last, with no carnival rides and a new layout. Emphasis will be on making it fun.

B. School Commission

George Wichlinski

- Discernment was held last month.
- Three new members were added.
- George Wichlinski is president.
- New chair positions have been added to focus on development areas: alumni chair, media specialist, parish liaison.
- Others existing positions include marketing, membership, grant writing.
- The school has been able to purchase a treadmill as a result of grant writing.

C. Finance Council

(Harold Bowling)

(Deferred to budget discussion)

Agenda Items

A. Annual Budget Review

Bob Swayze

Bob Swayze reviewed the 2011-2012 budget proposal. Highlights included:

- The numbers are such that income is equal to expenses.
- Income has been projected on a very realistic basis. Festival income has also been projected conservatively.
- Finance Council feels more comfortable with this plan than in past year.
- The plan is aligned with Archdiocesan guidelines with respect to salaries, raises, benefits, etc.
- Collections are up this year.

The group expressed thanks to Bob and the Finance Council for their work to keep the parish in the black.

B. HVAC Proposal

Ed Balint / Rusty Albertson

Ed Balint presented a proposal to install a new HVAC system in the school.

This is thought to be the single greatest thing that could be done to improve the school. The current system is a mesh of three different heating/cooling systems, the most recent of which is 20 years old. Repairs have become very costly. Heating efficiency is 40-45%, and controls are not zone-specific.

In looking at opportunities for the school, the school task force identified a trend toward growth in enrollment. Without air conditioning, St. Mark is at a disadvantage for prospective students and does not provide an optimal environment for education. Next year, the school will be going to balanced calendar, with classes beginning first week of August.

Pros for a new HVAC system were summarized as follows:

- The whole school will be on one system.
- It will be 95% efficient. It will be zoned so each room will have its own thermostat, and areas can be turned down when not in use.
- The school facilities can be used year-round without discomfort.
- Usage includes a lot of different parish and community groups.
- Summer learning programs can also take advantage of it.
- It will make the school more marketable and attractive for academic development.
- New families in school and collections are up, making this a good time to address the need.

The purpose for presenting to the Council is to inform and position members to help direct questions. Communication to the parish is being discussed. A capital campaign will be needed. The parish will need to have 50% of the funding by February 1 to begin the project in order to have the new system installed by the start of the 2012 school year.

C. Parish Pastoral Planning

Mary Lynn Cavanaugh

Mary Lynn passed out copies of the survey for collecting SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) input from parishioners.

Two options for compiling and communicating results of the survey were discussed.

- 1) Hold a parish assembly with a state of parish address. Present SWOT analysis and gather input on what is important. Use that info to compile goals for the next 10 years.
- 2) Just consider the information gathered on the survey as the parish input. Compile and publicize the results. This might be the better option if the input is pretty obvious.

The Council agreed to hold a parish assembly in September. Suggested dates were the week of 9/12 or 9/19 (preferred), with two different nights to accommodate conflicts. Mary Lynn will work on scheduling.

Suggested revisions to the survey included:

- Add title and mission statement at the top
- Add a space for additional comments
- Increase font size at top to highlight the purpose

D. Banners for Schafer Hall

Bob Jones

Bob brought forward discussion initiated in SMAC (St. Mark Athletic Committee) about banners in Schafer Hall. The desire is to acquire banners representing championship teams to hang in Schafer Hall.

The concern about banners in the past has been that Schafer Hall is a multi-purpose facility rather than gym. Mary Lynn will revisit this with parish staff. Plans for walling off the balcony in Schafer Hall are not definite, and it was suggested that it may be best to wait for facilities plans to further evolve.

Evaluation & Communication

All

Next Meeting

Date: July 28, 2011
6:30 start

Agenda:

- Council member training/orientation
- Discernment of officers

Closing Prayer

Chris Hurley

*Respectfully Submitted,
Carol A. Pitzer
St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council Secretary*