

**ST. MATTHEW PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES]
October 22, 2007**

Council Members Present: Fr. Steve Stradinger, Fr. Bill Stanfield, Karen James, Blanche McQuitty, Sharon Tehan, Matt Knorr, Michael Kuick, Phill Unti, Cliff Shelton, Maria Schulner, Mike Hofmann, Micki Klappa-Sullivan, Judy Wargin.

Excused: Tom Marciniak.

Formation: Debrief Combined Parish Council Retreat

- Positive feedback was received regarding the retreat. It was a great opportunity to get to know others from the parishes in our cluster.
- The video shown, "For the Love of It", was excellent.
- A recommendation was made to do an overnight retreat next year for the St. Matthew Parish Council. This would provide an opportunity for members of the parish council to get to know one another better.
- If the cluster parishes are interested in pursuing another combined retreat, it could be held on the second day of the overnight experience.

Next Steps:

- B. McQuitty to query the parish council chairs from the cluster parishes to see if they would be interested in doing another combined retreat next fall.
- B. McQuitty to look into possible locations for holding an overnight retreat (Friday-Saturday) next fall.

Formation: Next Steps for Strategic Planning/Visioning

- The group reviewed the current strategic goals for the parish and discussed possible revisions to the document. M. Hofmann shared his thoughts of using the parish mission statement as the headers for the goals document and aligning the bullet points underneath the mission statement. After a lengthy discussion, the following changes were recommended:
 - Under the first section, We Celebrate the Eucharist, a fourth bullet point was added - "Build a strong community through greater participation."
 - Under the second section, We Spread the Good News of Christ, a recommendation was made to delete the first bullet point "Promote community aspects of parish life." Also in this section, a recommendation was made to change the second bullet point to read "Evangelize in the community to develop new membership while engaging current members of the parish."
 - Under the fourth section, We Provide Lifelong Christian Education, a recommendation was made to add a fifth bullet point - "Establish a viable CFAC."
- Fr. Bill recommended that the over arching goal for this year be to build a stronger community through greater participation.
- There was a lengthy conversation about what process should be used for strategic planning. A recommendation was made to ensure discussions are held with committees, staff and parishioners.

Next Steps:

- A decision was made to remove the current headers on the strategic goals document and replace them with to our parish mission statement.
- The over arching goal "Build a strong community through greater participation" will be added to the strategic goals document.
- The officers will meet to define a timeline and process for proceeding with the strategic planning initiative. This will be discussed at the next council meeting.

Chairs Report:

- The Parish Leadership Conference will be held on Saturday, October 27, 2007.

Pastor's Report:

Fr. Steve

- A significant amount of time and work has been dedicated to planning the Welcome Home Event to be held next Monday, October 29, 2007.

Fr. Bill

- The facilitator packets were distributed to those council members who volunteered to facilitate discussions at the Welcome Home Event.

- The Archdiocese of Milwaukee will roll out its capital campaign in 2008. We hope to postpone our involvement in the campaign until early 2009 since we are in the middle of our own capital campaign.
- Archbishop Dolan will be doing a 30-minute television show beginning the first Saturday of December that will air weekly through Easter. It will be featured on Channel 12 at 12:00 p.m.
- Fr. Jim Connell, the new Vicar of Planning, will be rolling out the new strategic plan for the Archdiocese in the spring of 2008.

Liaison Reports:

Evangelization – C. Shelton

- C. Shelton thanked M. Klappa-Sullivan for her work in securing radio advertisements for the Welcome Home Event.

Social Ministry – K. James

- A suggestion was brought forth to publish a monthly calendar for the parish instead of just a weekly calendar.
- The group inquired about an update on the Parish Leadership Day tentatively scheduled for March 2008.

Prayer and Worship – M. Schulner & S. Tehan

- J. Wargin will be talking to all Eucharistic ministers and lectors regarding appropriate dress.
- Eucharistic ministers formation meeting will be held on October 30th. J. Wargin will email all of the council members who volunteered to become Eucharistic ministers.

Meeting Minutes: The September meeting minutes were approved as written.

Open to All:

Nomination Committee

- K. James routed a sign-up sheet for volunteers to serve on the Nomination Committee.

Preparation for SPA Accreditation

- A request for the Building and Grounds Committee was made to have the carpet removed from the stage and the walls in the cafeteria and the elevator cleaned prior to the SPA accreditation visit on November 20th.

CFAC Formation Meeting

- P. Unti announced that a meeting has been scheduled for October 30th at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Blanche McQuitty
Parish Council Secretary