

Parish Council Minutes
November 28, 2006

Members present: Esteban Ruvalcaba, Cari Trock, Maria Oehl, Jennifer Dudenhoeffer, Sarah Neumann, Darren Meyer, Jason Doke, Fr Joachim Culotta OP, D'Arcy Haeusser, Lucas Volkman, Ted Arthur, Fr Thomas Saucier OP, Ron Frederick and Carol Miller.
Guests: Libby Miederhoff, Emily Wenzlick

The meeting opened at 7pm with prayer given by Maria Oehl.

The minutes were approved as read.

Libby Miederhoff started the Administration Commission's report by first handing out the first quarter plus one month Financial Report. She then described the four committees that make up the Administration Commission reporting on their respective activities, goals, challenges and needed help from the Parish Council. Fr Thomas expressed his gratitude and commended Libby for her guidance, leadership and commitment in helping St Thomas More Newman Center run in a financially sound manner.

Emily Wenzlick reported on the Campus Ministry Commission. She described the many activities Campus Ministry hold throughout the year but also detailed six specific challenges or areas of concentration for future development. Preparation for Newman Week activities have started and the charitable organizations have been picked. Fr Thomas is grateful in having the most enthusiastic Campus Minister in the State of Missouri and appreciates Emily's patience in hiring the second Campus Minister staff member who will aid her with the extensive duties that fall under the Campus Ministry Commission.

Pastor's Report:

Fr Thomas reported attending a meeting for the Catholic High School previous to this meeting. The discussion there was promoting a perpetual parish subsidy for each student attending the high school. He expressed concern and suggested temporary financial aid from each parish to get the high school started, but feels an ending date for the subsidy should be included in the proposed planning.

Dates and times for the Advent Penance Service and Christmas and New Year's masses have been set.

The rectory is almost ready and should be put on the market by mid- December.

Fr Thomas thanked the Council for their efforts in holding the Town Hall Meetings. Approximately 300 parishioners attending over the six dates they were held. He recommends having these meetings every couple of years.

Facilities and Maintenance Committee has been reestablished and is looking into shampooing the carpets.

A current goal is to have acoustical improvements made in the Chapel.

The Knights of Columbus have promised \$500 to purchase albs for the Alter Servers. Ten to twelve are needed and their donation will cover most of the expense.

President D'Arcy Haeusser has requested all Ad Hoc Committees to meet and refocus before our January Parish Council, prepared to provide a report at that meeting.

Due to Eleanor's absence there was no Deanery Report.

Commission Reports:

Worship- Sarah Neumann- No Report

Stewardship- Jason Doke- He suggested there be a Town Hall of sorts with Parish Council and staff members in attendance, approximately once per year, to help with communication throughout the parish.

Education- Maria Oehl- Unable to make last meeting, no report.

Hospitality- Cari Trock- All info is included on the report she e-mailed everyone before tonight's meeting.

Social Justice- Esteban Ruvalcaba- Social Justice commission wants to organize a moratorium against the death penalty and is hoping for direction from the Parish Council on how to achieve this. They hope to have a petition available after all the masses for people to sign.

Special Events- Jennifer Dudenhoeffer- No Report

The Next Meeting will be held January 23, 2007 at 7pm.

Jason Doke announced his resignation upon being accepted into Conception Seminary.

The meeting closed at 9pm with prayer given by Maria.