

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Council
September 14, 2009
Our Lady of Guadalupe Room
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Bill Bergan, Roman Lynch, Patrick Clem, Dave Dirks, Alan Lynch, Fr. Jon Seda, Jessica Rosenhamer, Jerry Peltier, John Klaus, Diane Lyon, Doug Ulazek, Don Alexander, Elise Mullen, Mary Mahoney (Guest representing Board of Education)

Absent: Kimberley Taylor, Shannon Schroeder,

7:00 pm Call to order- Bill Bergan

7:01 pm Prayer – Doug Ulazek

7:06 pm Approval of Agenda – Bill Bergan

7:07 pm Approval of June Minutes – Bill Bergan

7:10 pm Old Business

Prayer leaders for November 9 (Jerry Peltier), December 14 (Jessica Rosenhamer), January 11 (Patrick Clem)

7:15 pm Commission Reports

Parish Family Life – Alan Lynch – Basement sale was a success with good revenues. They are still discussing the position of Advocate for Persons with Disabilities within St. Thomas

Worship and Spiritual Growth – Jessica Rosenhamer- no report

Staff – Don Alexander – Some discussion about the future structure of staff meetings to make them more efficient. There are no longer any deacons at St. Thomas as Paul Brown will be relocating to Auburn University in November of this year. It is expected that STA will have only one priest in the near future so there will be a need for one or more deacons.

Board of Education – Shannon Schroeder (via Mary Mahoney) – Religious education classes have started! Angelina Willard, STA's new Youth Minister, outlined her plans for the fall semester. Board of Education will elect a new Chair in October.

Campus Ministry – Elise Mullen – 1st meeting is Tues at 7:30. Update about some students going to St. Catherine's in Des Moines to interact with other Iowa college students to discuss campus ministry.

Finance and Administration – Diane Lyon.

Clean up day Oct 24. The weekend of Nov. 7 & 8 is the annual sacrificial giving campaign. Personnel handbook has been sent in to be reviewed by the diocese Human Resources personnel.

Charity, Justice, Peace – John Klaus

Last meeting was an AMOS house meeting. There will be no Just Faith group this year due to lack of interest.

7:35 pm

New Business

KC Mailathon – Fr. Jon

Fr. Jon received a request from the KC's in regard to their annual Tootsie Roll Drive. They desire to send a mailing out in addition to the normal campaign at Mass. To do this would require the St. Thomas mailing list. Parish council is supportive of this.

Representative for Ames Ecumenical Housing – Fr. Jon

St. Thomas is looking for a representative to serve on the board for this group. We are looking for candidates who may be interested. Council members will take this back to the Commissions and discuss potential candidates. This will be discussed at next month's meeting.

Policy on Releasing Parish or Alumni Information – Fr. Jon

Fr. Jon has been working with Kris Eagan on plans for the future regarding development. The question has been raised about St. Thomas' policy on releasing parishioner and alumni information to those who request it. Due to lack of staffing it is the general consensus that St. Thomas will refer people to the parish directory. John Klaus will prepare a statement of understanding for the Parish Council to review regarding our stance on this matter.

New Archdiocesan norms for "Pastoral Council" and standing committees – Roman Lynch, Deanery Rep)

Roman reported on some of the new guidelines that parishes are discussing regarding the operating structure of the church and the Parish Council and Committees that serve the church. There is a request that PC's use prayer for guidance in an increased manner and provide more of a big picture vision for the church. We should review our structure and mission statement to see what changes or improvements our Church should consider. The majority of these changes deal with smaller parishes that do not have standing committees like St. Thomas. Staff will review the archdiocesan videos provided first and provide feedback to the council.

Policies and Procedures Review – Bill Bergan

This was reviewed internally to make sure we are following the compliance guidelines of the Archdiocese and it has been determined we are meeting the audit expectations.

7:50 pm

President's Report Fr. – Jon Seda

8:00 pm

Adjournment

Meeting Dates:

October 12 – Dave Dirks

November 9 – Jerry Peltier

December 14 – Jessica Rosenhamer

January 11 – Patrick Clem

Respectfully submitted by Patrick Clem