

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Council
October 12, 2009
Our Lady of Guadalupe Room
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Bill Bergan, Roman Lynch, Patrick Clem, Dave Dirks, Alan Lynch, Fr. Jon Seda, Doug Ulazek, Jerry Peltier, John Klaus, Diane Lyon, Elise Mullen, Kimberley Taylor, Todd Flowerday, Ann Gansemer-Topf, Jessica Rosenhamer

Absent: Don Alexander (Excused)

7:00 pm Call to order

7:00 pm Prayer – Dave Dirks

7:05 pm Introduction of new member/guest

7:06 pm Approval of Agenda – Bill Bergan

7:07 pm Approval of September Minutes – Bill Bergan

7:09 pm Old Business

The statement regarding release of alumni and parish information (John Klaus) – the prepared statement was reviewed by council and discussed. It was decided that the draft would be provided to the Staff for input and proposed revisions.

7:16 pm Commission Reports

Charity, Justice, Peace – John Klaus – A representative from Beyond Welfare would like to get involved with the parish in the way of a function. The committee will evaluate this. A study guide is being developed for the “Charity in Truth” encyclical. There was discussion about the Honduras project and AMOS and the role of CJP and Parish Council.

Parish Family Life – Alan Lynch – Planning for the fall retreat is ongoing. The advocate for parishioners with disabilities and the Parish Nurse are still being discussed. PFL needs more direction regarding the vision of these positions.

Worship and Spiritual Growth – Jessica Rosenhamer – The commission will meet next week and review parish practices in regards to standing/kneeling, flu outbreak procedures and elect a new chair for the commission.

Staff – Don Alexander (via Todd Flowerday) – Staff is discussing the effectiveness of parish communication including the various methods (Sunday bulletin, email, flyers, etc.), frequency, and areas of improvement that may need to be addressed. The fall semester has been very busy with many activities.

Board of Education – Ann Gansemer-Topf – Board of Education has completed “Parent Night” which was an opportunity for people to meet. It was well attended. Youth Ministry is organizing an upcoming service project and social event.

Campus Ministry – Elise Mullen – The Antioch 2-day retreat will be held in 2 weeks. The Commission is looking at assigning group leaders for the Spring Break trips as well as working on various events for later this fall.

Finance and Administration – Diane Lyon – The homecoming tailgate is this Saturday on “tent row.” The finances for the parish are currently on budget. Fall Cleanup Day is Oct. 24th. There was some discussion about the requirements for the advertisers on the back of the bulletin. The All Parish Appeal will be at the end of the month. The personnel handbook is still under review.

7:42 pm New Business

Annual Parish Council Sunday night supper for students is December 6th. Alan Lynch will graciously coordinate this event again. He did a wonderful job last year.

January Parish Council/Staff Retreat – Last year was a spiritual retreat so this year will be a “working retreat.” PC, Staff, Pastor discuss and decide theme/program/purpose and we will begin working on the agenda. Two council members and two staff members coordinate the meeting details – meeting space, food, etc. Two PC members need to volunteer or will be assigned.

November: Election of Officers – Begin thinking about these roles and potential nominations.

7:45 pm President’s Report Fr. – Jon Seda

We will be losing our Deacon and have the potential for losing our associate Pastor in the future. Fr. Jon discussed our need for discernment about those that may be called to take on the commitment of becoming a Deacon for our Parish. This will be discussed with Staff and Parish members ongoing.

7:55 pm General Discussion

Parish Council received two CDs regarding the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council Guidelines for review. The use of Bread for the Eucharist is still being discussed and practices reviewed.

8:00 pm Adjournment

Future Meeting Dates:

November 9 – Jerry Peltier

December 14 – Jessica Rosenhamer

January 11 – Patrick Clem

Respectfully submitted by Patrick Clem