

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

Present: Fr. Jon Seda, Roman Lynch, John Klaus, Don Alexander, Jerry Peltier, Diane Lyon, Doug Ulaszek, Jessica Rosenhammer, Ann Gansemer-Topf, Kimberley Taylor

Absent: Bill Bergan, Dave Dirks, Patrick Clem, Alan Lynch, Elise Mullen

7:03 Call to Order

Prayer – Jessica Rosenhammer

7:05 Approval of agenda – Fr. Jon Seda

7:06 Approval of November minutes – Fr. Jon Seda

7:09 Old Business- Parish council/staff retreat will be Saturday, January 30. More information about the retreat will be coming in January. The goal of the retreat is to come up with three priorities of the church for the next 5 to 10 years. Names of some of the commissions may change as a result of new Archdiocesan regulations. Fr. Seda tabled the discussion to later in the meeting of the three ideas for how to use a multi-million dollar gift if we were to receive one in the future.

7:11 Commission Reports

Parish Family Life – No report

Worship and Spiritual Growth – Jessica Rosenhamer - Not planning on meeting during December. Parishioners generally pleased with new standing/kneeling postures.

Staff- Don Alexander – The staff is working through the Archdiocesan switch to pastoral councils. A majority of the council has expressed interest in having the council staff retreat be January 30.

Board of Education – Ann Gansemer-Topf – Youth minister position opened up as a coordinator position. Three people have applied for the position.

Campus Ministry – Elise Mullen – (via Jerry Peltier and Fr. Seda) – Won't be having a meeting this month. Last meeting the commission discussed learned how to put events on to the parish calendar online. Students went caroling on Friday, December 11, it was very successful this year.

Finance and Administration – Diane Lyon – The commission is looking at designs for changing the parking lot to widen narrow spaces. The commission doesn't anticipate that the new design would add parking spaces.

February 12 is steward appreciation party- everyone is invited. Need to think about budget priorities for the budget committee. Web site isn't done, but some progress has been made. Some parishioners have expressed interest in helping.

Charity, Justice, Peace – John Klaus – The commission will be hearing a proposal from a Honduras parish about forming a sister relationship. CJP hopes to work on the justice and peace parts of the commission by learning about the issues that are a part of the Ames community.

7:36 New Business- Roman Lynch will be the new representative for the Parish Family Life Commission from the council. The council will continue to meet on the second Monday of every month for meetings. Prayer leaders meetings in January Don brought a request from St. Cecilia to provide a list of kindergarten-age children. The council agreed to provide the list to St. Cecilia. The council denied a request from Rev. Everett Hemann for contact information regarding parishioners, citing the current council policy for information release. The council agreed to receive the parish council packets electronically as opposed to the paper copies.

President's Report – Fr. Jon Seda – No report

7:58 Tabled discussion- The council discussed ideas of the main priorities of the church within the next 5 to 10 years.

8:27 Adjournment

Future meeting dates:
January 11- Patrick Clem

Respectfully submitted by Bethany Pint