

St. Thomas Aquinas Pastoral Council

December 5, 2016

Minutes

Members present: Francis Todey (Chairman) Fr. Jon Seda (President)
Alex Tietz, Berthe Palo Ilboudo, Bob Horton, Bob Gelina, Bill Bergan,
Alexis Pint, Dori Gass, John Moore, Paula Friederich

Staff and parishioners present: Joe Leisz (staff) Shari Reilly (staff), Matt Mitchell, Rose Robuccio, Ginny Dobbs, Marty Carney

Opening Prayer/ song: Bob Horton
Come Into My Heart

Reflections on Mission Statement:

Rose witnessed the Catholic Daughters of America which provides outreach to student groups , international students and families among our campus and community.

Business: Endowment Campaign

Joe led a presentation of the summary results of the Steier Group, which was consulted to “ measure the support for plans to raise funds for the Fr. James Supple Endowment in order to strengthen campus ministry at Iowa State University.”

- The overall result of the surveys and interviews conducted among the parishioners was very positively in favor of the anticipated campaign.
- It is anticipated that the campaign will seek a 3.5- 4 million goal, in order to fully fund a campus minister and two campus missionaries.
- The campaign study has generated two generous contributions to the Supple Endowment.

Francis led an extensive roundtable discussion in which all present were invited to share their opinions and concerns. Among these expressed, paraphrasing and condensing, in no particular order:

- It is essential that STA continues to build its campus ministry with increased funds and resources, and improve our outreach to students if we are to nurture and fulfill our Mission Statement. As ISU continues to grow in its enrollment, so does STA need to expand its resources in order to serve. Without further funding and people, our staff and resources and parish cannot expand to reach this growing need.
- STA should involve students in the active process of the campaign in order to seek their experiences and testimonies as well as their assistance.
- A greater presence at ISU might be an avenue for encouraging vocations.
- The campaign should, as far as possible, present refined and concrete numbers and goals to the congregation, as part of this campaign. Statistics such as the growing number of Catholics on campus, the number of small student groups which have already been formed at STA, the number of student volunteers, etc, may be helpful to define our expectations of growth and enhance donations.
- The Alumni should also be solicited to share their thoughts and recollections regarding their experience with STA.
- This may be an important opportunity for resident and student parishioners to engage further with each other on a common goal.
- The Steier group has an excellent reputation and can assist with this campaign, if we are to proceed.

Action: The Pastoral Council, with a majority of council members present and with unanimous consent, approved and recommended that STA move forward with the Endowment Campaign.

Other Business:**Finance Council:** John Moore

Impending changes in federal labor laws may require budget adjustments in compensation for STA salaried and hourly staff. Finance council will address FLSA standards in the upcoming budget cycle.

Planning for the 2017-2018 budget begins in January.

New requests or alterations need to be forthcoming now.

The Love Your Neighbor fund is insufficient for need at this time. John is working with various committees (LYN and Social Justice) as well as others to formulate a plan to proceed and enhance this program.

President's Report: Fr. Jon

There will a joint meeting of the councils of STA , St. Peter and Paul and St. Cecelia, on January 19, at 7pm, at St. Peter and Paul. He invites and encourages all to attend.

Next Meeting: January 9, 2017 @ 7pm

Dori Gass will present a summary of the Faith Formation ministry.

Announcement: Bob Horton

The Charismatic Prayer Group is hosting a Christmas pot-luck on Thursday, December 15 @ 6 pm in the lower lounge. All are invited! Bring whatever you want to share.

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Paula Friederich