

Saint Thomas Aquinas

Pastoral Council Meeting

March 6, 2017

Present: Francis Todey (Chairman,) Fr. Jon Seda (President,) Dori Gass, Berthe Ilbudo Palo, Alex Tietz, John Moore, Alexis Pint, Bob Horton, Bob Gelina, Paula Friederich

Staff: Shari Reilly, Joe Leitz

Reflections: Antioch weekend was a success, now in it's 50th year as an offering at STA.

Business:

New Rectory: Archbishop Jackels has expressed his recommendation that throughout the diocese, the pastor and associate reside within the same dwelling. However, he also asserts that it is important that a rectory allows sufficient space and privacy for the clergy who live there, and that it has a sense of "home."

STA has purchased a property which will provide housing convenient to the church, can accommodate our pastors, and can accommodate their privacy.

The previous dwellings owned by STA have increased in value since their purchase and are expected to sell soon.

Campus Ministry: Discussion

The "Evangelical Catholic" model has been influential in forming STA campus ministry.

With the increasing numbers of Catholic students at ISU, and decreasing numbers nationwide of those who practice, STA needs to respond with increasing outreach. Part of that effort needs to be a physical presence on campus.

After much study, including surveys and input of the STA congregation, STA narrowed the prospects to two groups whose purpose is to place missionaries on college campuses. Each have great success.

FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) and SPO (St. Paul's Outreach) were the two organizations under consideration.

After discussion and information from the staff, the Pastoral Council agreed that the FOCUS group is the better and more feasible fit for our needs at STA and those of our ISU campus.

STA would need to contract with FOCUS for a period of two years. They will provide experienced missionaries to serve our student population.

Funding for this effort will proceed from numerous resources, including the Lilly Grant, the upcoming Mnsr Supple Endowment campaign, as well as alumni donations.

Action: By consensus, the Pastoral Council supported the recommendation to proceed with contracting FOCUS.

Mnsr Supple Endowment Campaign:

Anticipated to begin in April, 2017 and to conclude in January 2018.

STA will enlist the Steier Group, which consulted on the surveys and feasibility study, to assist with the next phase of fundraising.

Software/Communications: Our current software is outdated and insufficient to handle our growing database and processing needs. Various products are being considered.

The budget is on track. The upcoming campaign will affect the numbers, depending on what is gained from grants and other resources and what might need to be borrowed.

A person with a Master's degree in Theology or related field, with 3-5 years of experience is sought to replace Tyler. This position is anticipated to be 80 percent time on developing programs and interactive groups with resident parishioners, and 20 percent on faith formation for students pre-school through 8th grade.

Music Director/Campus Minister

Pastoral Council Elections:

Two residents and three students are needed to fill the open council positions.