

# Meeting-Minutes

## Cluster 5 Council

03/17/2009

## St. Peter's Center

### Attendance

- ❖ **Council Members Present:** Albert Van Dine, Tom Robinson, Kathleen Albert, Roy Rivers, Charles Theriault, Lana Robinson, Cathy Cyr, Peter Cesare, Paula Sprague, Eldon Doody, Rose Legassey
- ❖ **Council Members Absent:** Rose Rush, John Doe, Phil Knowles, Jodi Vaznis,
- ❖ **Ex-Officio President:** Father Joel Cyr (present)
- ❖ **Cluster Pastoral Coordinator:** Deacon Dan Watson (present)
- ❖ **Cluster Business Coordinator:** Charleen Rossignol (present)
  
- ❖ **Recording Secretary:** Nancy Rivers

### Opening

1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Sandra Willard.
2. Opening Prayer/Reading Al Van Dine and Deacon Dan.
3. Minutes of January 21, 2009 Cluster 5 Council Meeting were read by Nancy.  
Paula made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Peter seconded the motion.  
All voted in favor.
4. Al Van Dine announced Cathy Bouchard is joining Council 5 to replace Carol Tanous. Roy Rivers announced that Phil Knowles would be joining the council to replace Lisa Rush.

### Discussion, decisions, assignments

1. The Envelope System used by Christ the Divine Mercy was discussed. It was suggested that Cathedral tools and costs be presented at an upcoming meeting. A presentation could bring to light tools that could be used for evangelization purposes... A brief sub discussion regarding evangelization followed with a suggestion about Church Life Commissions possibly doing periodic newsletters that would reach beyond the regular church attendees.

2. The council separated into two groups at 7:15 PM.

## Pastoral Council Minutes

- Father Cyr charged the Pastoral Council to begin immediately to discern candidates for the six commissions.
- He stated that the commissions would eventually form subcommittees to do the work of the commissions. He said not to be worried about getting ideas. He predicted that ideas will be numerous enough to fill up a room. The difficult part will be finding people.
- He referred to the Pastoral and Business Coordinators as CEO's. The council should make use of them (Deacon Dan and Charleen) for support and motivation, etc.
- Additionally he commented that people are not accustomed to serving their church. They are comfortable with just going to mass and putting money in the collection. Times and demographics make this new evangelization necessary for survival here and across the United States.
- He noted that moral issues (marriage, right to life, stem cell) are a hot buttons for Charity & Justice Commissions NOW.
- He said each commission must begin by setting up a budget.
- He mandates that he requires the names of a Chair, Co-chair, and Secretary for each commission by August. Failure to comply is a message to Fr Cyr that a worship site no longer wants the Mass said at their church.
- There will be a status meeting in the fall with council, staff and commission officers.
- Officers for the commissions are needed as contacts. An individual could go to a commission officer with question/suggestion/need etc. The commission officer contacts their cluster 5 council liaison, etc.....
- Fr Cyr is not in favor of combining commissions. Church Life combining with Family Life was used as an example. His experience is that one or the

other “gets lost” in the merge. Working together on projects is fine but they need to remain distinctly separate.

## Finance Council Minutes

- ❖ **Finance Members Present:** Peter Cesare, Eldon Doody, Roy Rivers, Paula Sprague, Charles Theriault
- ❖ **Finance Members Absent:** John Doe, Phil Knowles, Rose Rush, Jodi Vaznis
- ❖ **Finance Recording Secretary:** TBD

## Discussions

Eldon, present for the first time in a finance breakout meeting, asked for a description of the cluster Finance Strategy. He received a background summary from the members.

Roy asked for the ‘Financial Strategy Status’ information required at every meeting. The minutes of the Status information are reported in a high level overview chart (attached) that provides status at a glance.

Peter distributed copies of a letter from Fr. Joel to David Twomey dated 3/10/09 informing him of the local area realtor’s desire to discontinue services to sell St. Martin’s parish center. Further, the letter defined targeted marketing examples, and requested that expertise within the Diocesan Property Committee help define an expanded targeted marketing program. Last, the same committee was asked for guidance in selecting an aggressive and energetic real estate agency. Peter also obtained and provided a list of all cluster 5 properties bucketed as ‘keep’, ‘on the market’, ‘in process to go to market’, ‘desire to sell’, to include ‘expected sale values’ of properties not designated as ‘keep’.

The Diocesan Campaign Letter agenda item was set aside as Fr. Joel was fully engaged with the pastoral council members.

The Information Sharing agenda item (The LOGOSystem’s Income vs Expenditures, in many cases, does not reflect the true financial health of a parish) was unfinished due to time limits.

Breakout start 7:15 PM; Breakout end 7:50 PM

Submitted: Roy Rivers

3. The Finance Council rejoined the Pastoral Council at 7:50 PM
4. The Commission Bylaw document provided by Fr Cyr was discussed and a few modifications were made. A motion was made to accept the guidelines by Rose Legassey. Lana Robinson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
5. Concerns of the membership:
  - Al Van Dine noted that nominations for council members ending term are due in April. He suggested the discernment letter be placed in the bulletins this week and ballots be distributed at masses the following two Sundays.
  - It was noted that expulsion for lack of attendance needs to be enforced. A comment was made that several of the newer members have requested some type of orientation.
  - Sandra Willard requested a volunteer from each church to make a plea from the pulpit this Sunday for a secretary for the finance council meetings and to mention that the discernment of new members is forthcoming.

## Wrap Up

Sandra made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Rose L seconded the motion. All voted in favor (8:25 PM)

Closing prayer by Fr Cyr

## Next Meeting

Cluster 5 Council – May 19 - 6:30 PM - St Peters