

**St. Catherine of Siena  
Pastoral Council Minutes  
November 10, 2009**

**Present:** Juan Arroyo, Frank Ciaramello, Matt Cooney, Eileen Gravani, Chang-Sik Oh, Sarah Page, Nancy Pringle, Sr. Mary O'Brien, Mary Boris

**Excused:** Beth Carroll, Dan Finlay, Carl Franck, Ann Gifford, Janet Strebel, Larry Walker, Beverly Way

1. Eileen led the Council in prayer.
2. October minutes were approved.
3. Council voted to amend the beginning and end date specified by the pastoral council bylaws. All membership terms now run from September 1 through August 31.

**4. Recommendation from FPSC regarding funding the replacement of the church HVAC.**

Mike Redlin presented a recommendation from the Facilities Project Steering Committee (FPSC) regarding the funding for work that needs to be done in order to replace the church's heating system. As of the time of the PC meeting, the pledge amounts were insufficient to cover the cost of replacing the heating system. The FPSC has recommended that if the final pledge amount is insufficient, St. Catherine's should borrow the estimated \$200,000 through long-term debt. Mike Redlin will also present this recommendation on behalf of the FPSC to the Finance Council at their Nov. 23 meeting. The PC decided not to support this recommendation at this time. The primary concern from the council regarding this recommendation would be St. Catherine's ability to repay this loan. Additionally, the council was hesitant to approve this recommendation before the Building Our Future campaign is finished and the final pledged dollar amount is known. Because of these two concerns, the PC has requested the following two actions of the FPSC: 1) to organize a joint meeting with the PC and the Finance Council to be held in January, if the final pledged dollar amount is still insufficient for the projected cost of replacing the heating system; 2) to request the creation of a build design from the architectural firm, contingent upon approval from the Finance Council.

**5. Comments from Mike Redlin regarding the parish center roof**

The FPSC has sought a low cost, temporary solution to fix the leaking roof on the parish center, initially proposing to apply a membrane over the entire roof. Unfortunately, because the parish center currently has two roofs (the original and a repaired roof built over the original), adding the membrane would be considered a 3<sup>rd</sup> roof, and would be a violation of building code. The decision was made to patch the roof in the two locations where it is leaking, at a cost of just under \$3000, avoiding the need for a building permit.

**6. Sustainability – meeting with committee chairs**

The Council has agreed to invite the chairs of St. Catherine's many committees to an informal meeting, during which the Council can get feedback from each of the committees and the chairpersons can have the opportunity to interact with one another. It was decided to hold this

meeting as an alternative to a regularly scheduled PC meeting, most likely in February. Among the questions to be posed to the committee chairs would be the following: What has worked well for your committee? What are you most proud of? What challenges are you facing? What can the Pastoral Council do to further assist you?

Nancy Pringle and Eileen Gravani volunteered to form a subcommittee charged with the task of organizing and planning this meeting. Any other interested PC members are encouraged to join this subcommittee.

### **7. Second collection for facilities maintenance**

Sr. Mary proposed that we ask the Finance Council to consider adding a second collection for building and maintenance repairs. The second collection would occur during a month or months when we do not have a second collection.

Sr. Mary proposed that a second collection be added which will specifically collect funds for building/facility issues. The creation of this second collection and the corresponding fund will allow for unforeseen repair expenses to be covered without taxing the operating budget. The Council agreed to the creation of this collection, pending conversation with the Finance Council. The Council also discussed the issue of second collections in general. Approximately 2-3 years ago, the Council decided to offer all the second collections being recommended by the Bishops, allowing the parishioners to select collections to which they'd like to make a contribution. The Council has decided to address this decision as a future agenda item, in order to answer the following questions: how much have the second collections earned as a results of this change? Are parishioners being provided with details about the collections in order to make informed decisions about their contributions? Do parishioners feel obligated to donate to each collection because they receive the corresponding envelopes in the mail? Should the number of second collections be reduced?

### **8. Flu precautions**

The Council discussed what precautions are being taken at St. Catherine's to deal with the flu. We are currently following the diocesan recommendations. Specifically, the Eucharistic ministers are being asked to use hand sanitizer before distributing the Eucharist. Hand sanitizers have been placed at each of the entrances to the church.

### **9. Shaping St. Catherine's Future updates**

Sr. Mary invited the Council to consider whether or not the Shaping St. Catherine's Future updates were still an effective tool for communicating with the parish. After discussion, we decided to discontinue the updates. Instead, we will invite all committees to provide an end of the year report noting their accomplishments.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Frank Ciaramello