

MEETING MINUTES

**St. Andrew the Apostle Parish
Pastoral Advisory Council (PAC)
Monday, September 11, 2006 -- 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Don Whitlatch, Dave Johnson, Norah Caton, Tanya Supenski, Sandra Messer, Cara Husk, Mike Swanson, Bill Keilen, Mary Marsh, Amy Ortiz, Kathy DiNolfi, Ryan Whitlatch, Butch Ekstrom, Angela Holt, David Runyan, Fr. Rick, Fr. Joe, Julie Schlarmann

Excused: Joseph Urban, Dolly Echieverria, Marcia Kennedy, Casey Mahoney, Rosie Aldini

Absent:

Opening prayer and reflection was led by Butch Ekstrom.

Finance Update – Angela Holt

A large surplus at the end of FY 2005-2006 was carried over into the building & maintenance fund. To date, income is 4% higher than this time last year. Some large anticipated expenses include utilities, maintenance, leadership retreats, mass mailings, textbooks for Elementary R.E., and new chairs for the social hall.

Parish Pastoral Director Position – Fr. Joe & Butch Ekstrom

Fr. Joe introduced Butch Ekstrom as the Parish Pastoral Director. Butch moved here from New Orleans. His primary duties will focus on administrative/operational needs of the parish and ministry formation. Fr. Joe indicated that 90 new families joined the parish in August. There are nearly 4,000 registered families with an additional 1,900 families who come or contribute to the parish in some way. These numbers indicated a need to hire somebody who could help serve the parish and pastoral staff. It is the only position of this kind in the diocese.

Group Discussion – Where have we been & where are we going?

- A leadership structure is in place with the Break Out Groups (BOGs), Pastoral Advisory Council, and pastoral staff.
- The outcomes of the BOG meetings is impressive. Ministries are working together.
- PAC is more productive, more consistent and continues to evolve.
- Realization that sharing of information is important and has improved. No secrets.
- Gradually the parish has turned into a mature organization.
- We are a Vatican II parish – the PAC is the collegial group while the BOGs are subsidiary groups.
- Parish is based on customer satisfaction. If people are happy they will give and get involved.
- Formation is happening and everyone is sharing which enhances the parish.
- A solid foundation makes turnover in staff and ministries easier to handle.
- Goals need to be reviewed and taken back to the BOGs.

Roundtable -- Ministry Reports

The *Called to Protect* program was discussed. The Safe Environment Training is being phased out. More information this new diocesan program will be disseminated at the masses September 30/October 1.

Dave Johnson & Norah Caton/Adult Formation BOG –

- Any Ministry needing assistance with any aspect of “formation” should contact Cathy Olds.
- The first Busy Person’s retreat was very successful with 14 participants.

- More retreats are scheduled for November, March and May.
- The faith enrichment catalogs were sent to all parishioners.
- There will be a library open house on October 1.

Sandra Messer & Bill Keilen/Liturgy BOG –

- The training process for many ministries is beginning again.

Kathy DiNolfi & Amy Ortiz/Family Life Ministries BOG –

- Unitas begins September 15.
- The S.A.M.S ministry partnered with the Maggie's Place ministry to organize a baby shower for six expectant mothers at Elizabeth House.

Mike Swanson & Cara Husk/Caring Ministries BOG –

- The next Habitat build is delayed until November while permits etc. are secured. The next project will be a two-story house and there will be many opportunities to volunteer. St. Andrew's has secured nearly all of their portion of the funding.
- There will be a potluck September 29 inviting all new parishioners to learn about the caring ministries.
- Working with the Knights of Columbus to have volunteers and information about caring ministries at the October pancake breakfast.
- The Angel Connection mass is October 21.

Tanya Supenski/Elementary Catechesis BOG-

- Nearly 1,000 kids are registered for Elementary R.E. and 145 volunteers will be teaching the classes. The classes will be held Tuesdays and Wednesdays beginning September 19.

Fr. Joe reported that plans for the prayer garden are being developed and will be shared with the parish soon.

Fr. Rick indicated that October 13 is Diocesan Stewardship Day at the Mt. Claret Center. Let him know if you're interested in attending.

ACTION ITEM: Ryan Whitlatch suggested adding the BOG minutes as an attachment with the Pastoral Pipeline.

PAC Comments – Don Whitlatch

Positive outcomes of the meeting included the nice introduction of Butch Ekstrom, the opening prayer and on-time facilitation.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer by Fr. Joe.

Submitted by: Don Whitlatch, Interim Pastoral Advisory Council Chairperson