

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Of St. Vincent de Paul Church
January 9, 2007**

The Parish Council of St. Vincent de Paul Church met on Tuesday, January 9, 2007. The meeting was brought to order at 7:30 by our president, Colleen McCahill. In attendance: Chris Kreeger, Pat Ball, Barbara Murphy, Dennis Moore, Colleen McCahill, Graham Yearley, Joan Campbell, Audrey Rogers, Teresa Payne, Larry Fenaroli, Pat Bahr, Dennis Flynn and Maureen Fitzsimmons. A prayer was offered by Pat Ball.

New Business

- Pat Bahr came before the council with a proposal for her \$12,000 donation to St. Vincent's Church in order to establish a permanent prayer garden behind the pastor's residence. Council thanked Pat and then discussed ways to bring people together to continue and expand on the excellent work that Larry Fenaroli has already created. Larry will meet with Pat and other interested parish members who will work on this project.

- Larry Fenaroli proposed adding another AA group for Tuesday nights at 7:00 at the request of some AA members. Many of the folks come here because it is centrally located and has parking. He suggested giving them the space on a 6 month trial. Council discussed the issue and voted unanimously for this proposal. Dick spoke about this ministry as important to the neighborhood. He then explained about some of the other services in the neighborhood for the homeless and those in recovery.

Pastor's Report

- Dick stated that attendance was low during November and December but that liturgies were very good and offertory was still good. There was some discussion about how attendance is counted. Dick will research how attendance is currently being counted in order to standardize this process.

Financial Report

Maureen Fitzsimmons passed out the Income Statement for the three months ending November 30, 2006. December counts are not in yet. Maureen stated that since she and Dennis Flynn are the only parishioners who are working on the Finance Committee and that they need a few more volunteers to help a few hours a year. Chris Kreeger and Graham Yearley volunteered to help.

Committee Reports

Liturgy: The Liturgy Committee reported that the Lenten Services are being planned and include Tenebrae, Reconciliation, and the Easter Vigil. Audrey asked the council to allow announcements to be suspended during Lent. There was some discussion about this issue and the pros and cons of announcements. Audrey was asked to bring the issue back to the committee and return to the council with a proposal to discuss.

Peace and Justice: Next meeting will be January 26th at 7:30 at Sylvia Eastman's house. No new business.

Old Business

Task Force Proposals: The remainder of the Parish Council meeting was devoted to reviewing the proposals that arose from the Listening Project in priority order as ranked by parish council. See attached document.

Discussion continued about how to get people involved and get some projects started. Chris Kreeger talked about having a champion for those projects that individuals see as very important. Issues need a champion to drive it forward. Some issues have a champion within the task force that is ready to work. Other new people will need to be recruited, especially those who have not been involved. Several people said that it might be best to talk to people individually about getting involved. Dick talked about recruiting people for one time projects such as organizing the photo directory or something else that one or two people can organize. Graham Yearley reminded the council that it would be a big accomplishment if only one or two projects got off the ground and that this parish already does a tremendous amount.

Colleen mentioned two task forces, the Social Action and the Pastoral Care Task Forces, who seem ready to take on some projects. Council discussed how to give these groups the go ahead. Council will ask each group to come up with an action plan for what they want to do, how to do it and then bring it before the council.

Homeless in the Park: Colleen and Dick are putting together a panel discussion about the homeless population living in the park. Council discussed dates and times and came up with two dates, Sunday, February 18 or Sunday, February 25 depending on availability of panel members.

The council meeting closed with the Our Father.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Murphy

St. Vincent's Task Force Projects

1	outreach	replace sign on exterior wall	331
2	pastoral care	pastoral care committee	324
3	social activities	engagement plan new parishioners	321
4	social activities	engagement plan current parishioners	300
5	pastoral care	training workshops in pastoral care	298
6	social action	social action committee (7 parts)	277
7	organizational development	org. dev. Committee	273
8	communications	develop effective marketing strategy	267
9	program of renewal	provide leadership training for chairs	261
10	outreach	direct mail outreach	257
11	outreach	create visitor table	245
12	organizational development	reconfigure current committees	241
13	program of renewal	new system for member involvement	240
14	communications	enhance website	233
15	communications	ext sign/events calendar/answering machine	229
16	communications	new tools - logo/brochure/tour	227
17	social action	survey / direct. of members' social action interests	215
18	program of renewal	establish org. dev. Committee	212
19	program of renewal	quarterly town meetings	210
20	communications	directory of members' interests	203
21	conflict/consensus	parishioner education	203
22	outreach	survey lapsed attendees	199
23	parish directory	produce photo directory	189
24	outreach	enhance website	187
25	outreach	enhance bulletin	187
26	pastoral care	resource directory of members	187
27	communications	expand email & postal mailings	185
28	conflict/consensus	improved interaction PC/parish	172
29	parish directory	maintain current print directory	157
30	parish directory	distribute updated pdf directory	156
31	social activities	improved communication/new picnic	155
32	communications	enhance bulletin	150
33	conflict/consensus	better PC education	147
34	pastoral care	preventive health care program	143
35	communications	expand news media exposure	133
36	parish directory	produce loose leaf photo directory	96
37	parish directory	password-protected on-line directory	96