

St. Thomas Parish Council  
Minutes of Meeting  
December 1, 2016  
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS:

Father Mariusz Majewski: Pastor  
Ellen Jaeger: President  
Joe Dahmen: Vice-President  
Pat Lenz: Recording Secretary

Robert Valencia  
Dixie Reid  
Andy Finney

Opening Prayer: Father Mariusz  
Ellen called the meeting to order.

Minutes were read and approved from the previous meeting with a motion from Dixie and a second from Joe.

**Presentation by Norm Ridge and Barbara Furcron,  
St. Thomas Soup Kitchen representatives**

Norm and Barbara presented information regarding the status of the equipment and needs of St. Thomas Soup Kitchen. Items discussed were cleaning the exhaust system; replacing the pantry floor which currently has disintegrating asbestos tile; and replacing the stove which was donated several years ago by the Women's Auxiliary.

The first priority is replacement of the stoves. After researching replacement options, Norm reported that gas stoves would be the most efficient and would withstand the wear and tear of use by multiple organizations. The Knights of Columbus and the Women's Auxiliary have donated \$500.00 each to help with the cost of replacing the stoves. The Soup Kitchen would like the Parish Council to consider funding the cost of installing the new stoves which includes running a gas line and changing the electric outlet. Norm spoke with Jeff Clay, Director of Maintenance, about the installation of a gas and electric line. Jeff said there was no problem accessing the gas line.

St. Thomas Soup Kitchen serves meals on Tuesday afternoons with seventeen people volunteering. On any given Tuesday there are ten to twelve volunteers cooking and serving food. The Soup Kitchen receives funding mainly from outside the Parish. Most of the funding comes from a state and federal program called Community Action Partnership (CAP). CAP requires the Kitchen to serve meals 52 weeks out of the year, which includes holidays. Records are submitted to CAP on a monthly basis and the Kitchen is inspected annually. Discussion followed regarding raising the awareness in the Parish Community about this important ministry.

Pat placed a motion for approving the purchase of new stoves; paying for installation costs; replacing the floor in the pantry area; and donating the current kitchen stoves to St. Vincent. Robert seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Committee Reports:

**Legacy Moves Forward: Ellen Jaeger and Joe Dahmen**

The Legacy Moves Forward Committee met the previous evening. It was reported that there is a combined total of \$593,510 in cash and signed pledges along with \$55,000 in unsigned pledges. There is \$376,110 cash at hand which is halfway to the cash goal. The kickoff campaign will begin this coming Sunday with Ellen presenting at each Mass. A brochure was created for the campaign containing information about the project. Tours will be available for interested parishioners.

This summer, there will be a Hagadone Luncheon event to raise additional funds. This includes a boat ride over to Duane and Lola Hadadone's residence and a "to be named" celebrity attending. Tickets will be \$100 with 500 tickets sold.

### **Charity/Outreach Committee: Dixie Reid**

Dixie reported on organizing a group interested in helping with and organizing various charity/outreach activities. These include taking communion to the sick, homebound, hospital, and nursing homes; creating a "Tool Box Notebook" that lists the various organizations in the community that serve the elderly and low income; creating a Parish Nurse program in the future; establishing a prayer chain that includes the entire parish; setting up a telephone tree to check on families of our sick/dying, in crisis, loss of loved one, and divorce; and reports being included in the bulletin regarding the activities of the various ministries.

The number one priority is coordinating the people and the delivery of communion to the sick and to nursing homes. There are many people who would like to help but currently the system is unorganized with no coordination of volunteers and needs.

### **Hospitality Committee: Ellen Jaeger and Robert Valencia**

Currently the number one priority for the hospitality committee is to develop a system to welcome new parishioners. The council discussed creating a welcome package to reach out to new parishioners and preserving and building the parish community. Some ideas discussed were having pictures of new parishioners in the entry to the church; what to include in a welcome package; and building parishioners knowledge of the various ministries serving the parish community.

### **Building Committee: Pat Lenz**

Pat and Father Mariusz reported Jeff Clay was doing an excellent job maintaining the church and its various buildings. Jeff is very personable and many parishioners have made complimentary comments on his work.

Other maintenance work completed were cleaning the church rain gutters on the eastside by Bob Capaul, John White, and Pat Lenz; updating the confessionals with new sound batting, paint, and trim by Andy Finney, John White, and Jeff Clay along with replacement of the lectern light.

### **Liturgy Committee: Father Mariusz and Robert Valencia**

Robert and Father reported on the continue good service of Sheila Woods in organizing and training the Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers and John Kastelic in training and working with the altar servers.

### **Other Business:**

Ellen requested each Parish Council committee to submit a written report that details a description of the committee's activities and its vision and goals for the upcoming year. After the reports are submitted the Council Committee Matrix will be revised and updated.

Bishop Peter has given the green light to establish the Teams of our Lady. A presentation is scheduled for January. Teams of our Lady focus on growth in marriage spirituality.

A new Bible Study will begin in March.

### **New Business:**

Dates for the upcoming meetings in the new year were given as follows: January 19<sup>th</sup>, February 16<sup>th</sup>, March 16<sup>th</sup>, April 20<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup>, and June 15<sup>th</sup>. The next parish council nominations will be on May 13 & 14<sup>th</sup> with elections on May 27 and 28<sup>th</sup>.

Work has begun on creating a new website for the parish.

Ellen closed the meeting. Father Mariusz led the Council in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick Lenz

Parish Recording Secretary

Next Council meeting: Thursday, January 19, 2017; 6:00 p.m. – Mission House