

**St. Margaret Mary Parish
Pastoral Council Minutes
December 3, 2002**

Present:	Rick Burton	Matthew Johnson	Fr. Bill O'Shea
	Harry Dubnick	Cathy Kaduk	Dan Ptak
	Molly Fara	Joe Kash	Fr. Danny Soriano
	Tom Gavin	Mark Oliphant	Tom Walz

Also Attending:	Mike Prus	Dick Backer	Sr. Madelyn Gould
	Mike Bruni	Melanie Furlan	Chuck Marquis
	Jim Luthman	Steve Sarovich	Rosemary Wisnosky
	Members of Naperville Regional School Committee		

Opening Prayer: Mark Oliphant

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the meeting November 5th were approved without changes.

Parishioner Input

Rosemary Macko Wisnosky gave a presentation concerning Naperville's Sister City Program. Naperville is a sister city with Nitra, Slovakia. She asked that SMMP, along with other area Catholic churches provide financial support for this project.

Discussion Items

A. PC Thank You Notes

Molly distributed thank you notes for Council members to write letters of appreciation to individuals within the parish who have done something special. Each time these letters are written, the individual's name will be noted in the minutes. This month special thank you's were given to Kathy Peterson for her coordination of deaf interpreters at the Men's CRHP Retreat in November, Dick Backer for all he does with the care, maintenance and future growth of the church and Mary Lou Krause for her work in Art and Environment.

B. Appreciation Dinner Preparations

Preparations for the Appreciation Dinners are progressing well except for the continued need for more volunteers from Council and Commissions. Molly has received one volunteer each from Service and Worship Commissions, and as noted in an email message, the other two Commissions will be responsible for cleanup after the dinners. Council members are also requested to help hang lights on December 28th at 9 a.m. in the Parish Center.

C. Report on Election/Volunteer Recommendations

Harry, Matt and Joe have spoken with Margo Stone from SS. Peter and Paul concerning their discernment process for Council members, and this is an issue that can be researched further for our 2004 election year, at the earliest. In the meantime, members of our parish will be encouraged to nominate parishioners as Council candidates for the 2003 election year. Additional enhancements to our election process will be discussed in the next few months.

Volunteers will be asked through their Commissions to invite others to participate in the various volunteer opportunities within the parish. Hopefully this one-on-one personal contact will encourage an increase in parishioner involvement.

D. 25th Anniversary Celebration for SMMP

Our parish will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2004, and preparations should begin as soon as possible. Fr. Bill will contact Rosemary Re, who headed the 15th Anniversary committee, to see if members

of that group can meet with potential new committee members to share information. This will be re-addressed at the January meeting.

E. Space Needs Steering Committee Report

Members of the Space Needs Committee presented the latest set of architectural drawings for the building expansion, estimated building costs (including parking lot reconfiguration, worship space lighting and sprinkler system) and operating costs. The plan has changed from the one previously presented to Council.

- No change will be made to the worship space
- New COR Center built, approximately 50% larger than current one, with folding wall, additional bathrooms, education administration wing
- Current COR Center rebuilt with classrooms above it and Teen Room next to it
- Increase size of Parish Center from 4900 to 7900 square feet, which will seat 500 comfortably, and changes to the classroom area with addition of a library/meditation room
- More centralized and efficient location of offices and classrooms
- Sufficient storage included that will eliminate need to rent storage space
- Cost estimates include additional parking and nave sprinkler and lighting systems, furniture, carpeting, etc., ready to 'move-in'
- Building will increase from 19,500 to 37,500 square feet

Although construction could take place in stages, it would be cost effective to do everything at once. All staff members have reviewed the drawings/plans and have given their approval. Mike Bruni feels that it will take 6-7 months to gather 'leadership gifts'. December would be used to solidify who those 'leaders' are and to meet with steering committee members and those who were part of the capital campaign preparation process. A communications committee would be formed and presentations would be made to parishioners in January. January through June would be heavy months of capital campaigning and things would wind down from July through September with a celebratory event in the fall. Funds pledged are expected to be paid over a course of five years.

The Steering Committee recommends to the Parish Council:

1. That it approve the plan as presented to add administrative space, classroom, other ancillary space and a renovated and enlarged Parish Center to provide for larger, flexible space
2. That the parish campus capital enhancements be approved
3. That a parish-wide capital campaign be immediately undertaken to provide the parishioners an opportunity to contribute to the parish expansion and the regional Catholic school. (Investors would have an opportunity to restrict their funds to one menu item if desired.)
4. That the Pastoral Council may have to consider debt financing
5. That CRD be retained to advise the Parish on and conduct the capital campaign
6. That a representative campaign steering committee be appointed to provide leadership and direction to the campaign.

Council members approved recommendations 1, 3, 5 and 6, as long as flexibility is built into these recommendations if necessary at a later date. Recommendation number 4 has been approved with reservations.

F. Regional School Update

Members of the Regional School Committee gave their formal presentation, as they are giving to all interested parishes in the Naperville area. They explained the details of the building and land purchased by the diocese on Aurora Road, the estimated costs, classroom configurations, expected participation from 'supporting' or 'sponsoring' parishes, the governance policy, admissions policy and plans for future growth. The current building would be renovated and used in the beginning for 3 classrooms per grade for PreK-3 through 2nd grade. Grades 3 and 4 would be added in the future. A junior high building is expected to be built on the concrete pad next to the current school building and would house 3 classrooms each for grades 5 through 8. The school would be run administratively more like a high school since it is a regional school.

Parishes that are 'sponsoring', versus 'supporting' would be expected to contribute upfront costs and more significant contributions to the capital campaign, to the best of their ability. In return, sponsoring parishes would be allowed more children for admission, involvement of their priests on the executive committee, parishioner membership on the other committees and use of the facilities after school hours. The amount of funds gathered by each parish will not determine what percentage of students will be admitted. The school would be a community effort, with each parish participating by making their best effort. The idea is not to make the school a matter of competition between the parishes. Those children who are currently attending St. Joan of Arc and SS. Peter and Paul could have their tuition subsidy grandfathered, on a parish by parish basis.

Members of the Committee are considering this school to be self-supporting. The bishop has not yet determined if the participating parishes are responsible to guarantee any major default of the school's debt. Any financial support through subsidies, scholarships or financial assistance will be the decision of the individual parishes.

Over the next 60 days it is hoped that all of the interested parishes will make their decision of their level of involvement. In addition, capital campaign efforts will begin during the first quarter of 2003.

A discussion followed the presentation. A major factor that is yet unanswered is the financial guarantee responsibility of each participating parish. Bishop Immesch will hopefully answer this question by the January 8th meeting between the Committee and the financial chairman from each parish. Until this question is answered, Council members are not ready to make a decision.

Closing Prayer

Meeting adjourned 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Katrina Meder