

**Pax Christi Catholic Community
Community Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 21st, 2011
Minutes**

Attendees: Jenine Anderson, Doug Faust, Sue Fier, Sue Kelley, Bruce Koehn, Elaine Larabee, Mike Lindseth, Steven Olinger, Joan Roethle, Ernie Stelzer, Shari Steffen, Bill Wagner and Joan Waterstreet

Absent: Fr. Kennedy and Joe Michels

Visitors: Mary Frances Messer (newly discerned at-large member)

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on May 17, 2011 were approved.

Budget Approval

Doug Faust presented a budget for the 2011/2012 fiscal year. Regular contributions of \$2.6 million are consistent with the projected actual regular contributions for the 2010/2011 fiscal year. An additional \$500,000 has been promised from one very generous anonymous donor. Program income and other income bring the total budgeted revenue to \$3,296,900.

Budgeted salaries/benefits of \$1,829,500 include a very modest raise for staff. General Administration expense is significantly lower from the current year due to the fact that the mortgage on the rectory has been paid off with dollars from the Crossroads Fund so interest expense has been eliminated. Total budgeted expenses are \$3,052,523 which leaves a budgeted \$244,377 surplus.

The proposed budget was approved by the Community Council.

Icing on the Crossroads Raffle

The raffle and silent auction at the Volunteer Appreciation Event raised \$4000 for the Crossroads Fund. While the parish policy prohibiting fundraising was lifted for this occasion, it was noted that the policy remains in effect unless exception is specifically approved by the Community Council.

Strategic Plan Survey Results

A survey was sent to staff and council members regarding the recent strategic planning process. There was overwhelming agreement that the process was inclusive and that ideas were heard. The process was helpful in creating a compelling future vision for our community. The large group sessions were important to the process and contributed to good outcomes. The time invested was well spent and appropriate for the outcomes. The ministry councils are clear on their tactics for this year and have the resources to accomplish them. The one criticism was that

the process stretched over too many months and would have been more effective if it could have been condensed into a shorter time frame.

As one third of our leadership will turn over in August, the importance of educating the new council members on both the process and outcomes of the strategic planning was emphasized.

Junior/Senior High Faith Formation

The junior and senior high faith formation programs have been specifically identified by the Community Council as areas in need of improvement. There are conflicting ideas regarding the goals of the program – should we provide more entertainment to compete with other churches in our community or should we offer something different from other churches which may be less attractive to the kids but has more substance? More catechists are needed and more support and training is needed for those catechists who do volunteer their time.

While the shortcomings of these programs are easy to identify, it was also noted that participation from this age group has been an issue for perhaps as long as the parish has been in existence. Nonetheless, the new councils will be given the task to further research and discuss possible changes to the program to improve the faith formation offered to our students.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sue Fier, Secretary