

# ST. MONICA PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

## January 23, 2010

### Members Present:

Fr. Tim Luschen	Deacon Lee Hunt
Tony Orel	Ladine Kunnanz
Nicole Owens	Chris Pribil
Helen O'Connor	Cathy Krittenbrink
John Martin	Charlie Bohan
Andy Cobb	Angel Baker

**Members Absent:** Katie Gordy, Gayle Stanfill, Theresa Hild, Julie Ridlon, Becky Cooper, Jim Carel, Aquilino Chavez, Virginia Hogue

**Guests Present:** Carmen Snow

1. **Call to Order / Prayer:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Pastoral Council Chairman Tony Orel. The meeting was opened with the Prayer for Vocations led by Father Tim.
2. **Welcome:** Father Tim welcomed Angel Baker and Andy Cobb as our new members-at-large and Carmen Snow, our Hispanic Ministries Coordinator.
3. **Minutes / Correspondence:** The minutes were approved as read. No correspondence was received.
4. **Old Business:**
  - a. **How's Your Life Report:** Father Tim reported that the committee met on Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>, followed by the meeting with those who have concerns on Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>. There were about 50 people at the meeting of concerns. Some that had not been previously involved were there to get information. Father Tim said this is the first time in all his years as a priest that he has experienced this level of concern regarding an issue. It is important that we, as a parish, get to a point where we can work through this as a community. When there are good people on both sides of an issue, there may be some that feel hurt. He does not want anyone to feel there are winners and losers in this issue. We may face similar feelings with the issue of building a school. John Martin asked if there is something we can take from this experience to address future issues. Father Tim replied that it is important that the lines of communication always remain open. Nicole Owens said that she has heard comments from some in attendance that the meeting made things worse because outsiders were brought in to facilitate the meeting. Their hope was that they would get the opportunity to express their concerns through dialog with Father, and instead they felt they were given a presentation. Father Tim replied that there were one or two people who monopolized the discussion, resulting in many possibly feeling they were not given the chance to have their concerns heard. Andy Cobb said that he was at

a meeting recently where Kris Ausdenmoore specifically addressed the concern over abortion. She addressed the issue by saying that the Oklahoma Sponsoring Committee will not make anyone do something or participate in anything that is against their Church's teaching. He added that she indicated one of the first issues the committee hopes to address is the issue of transportation for the elderly and disabled. Father Tim responded that we will probably have difficult issues in the future, but through keeping the lines of communication open, we can remain a strong community.

- b. **Building and Grounds:** Chris Pribil reported that the board took the information from the ad hoc space committee and they realize that our space concerns need immediate attention. Discussion included adding on to the west side of the parish hall and adding on to the maintenance shed. We need both short-term and long-term solutions. They are looking into more details, such as square footage needed by various groups, etc., before bringing their recommendations to the Pastoral Council. We should be able to begin building in about one year.
- c. **Parish Directory:** Andy Cobb had mock-ups for the various parts of the directory. He reported that there were 404 pictures taken. The business section of the directory is still being completed. Any parishioner can list their business in the business section, which will be organized by category. He hopes to have it all assembled by Feb. 10, so he can get bids for printing and have it printed the first week in March. Extras will be ordered, depending of the bids so that extras can be given to new parishioners or purchased at cost.
- d. **Constitution Review:** Charlie Bohan reported that the goal was to write a constitution that would better serve us as a pastoral council instead of a parish council. Now it is time to give members of the council a chance to look at the proposed document with the hope of discussing recommendations at our next meeting. Important new goals included in the document are Breaking Open the Word, wisdom sharing, and a new discernment process for pastoral council officers. There will be officers in place to hopefully have more continuity in the offices. Nicole Owens added that one of the goals was to make this a living document – the appendices will make it easier to make changes that are a clearer reflection of our pastoral council. Approval to change appendices lies with the Pastoral Council. She asked everyone to email concerns or suggestions to her or Charlie before the next meeting so it will not take as much time at the next meeting to address questions and concerns. Father Tim proposed that the current officers continue in their positions until the new bylaws are approved or through this entire year with the idea that we would implement the new election procedure next year. Nicole asked why we could not elect officers tonight under the new bylaws standards. Father Tim said that we cannot operate outside our current by-laws. After consensus, Tony Orel, Nicole Owens, and Ladine Kunnanz were reaffirmed to serve in their respective offices for the current year.
- e. **Finance:** Deacon Lee asked about the finance report that indicated budget proposals are due to the Finance Board by March 13 and noted that no Finance Board representative is here to answer questions about the budget. Father Tim said that letters will go out to board chairs regarding budgets. Every area is going to be asked to cut their budget by 10%. Nicole Owens asked if we are penalized by the archdiocese once our debt is paid off. Father Tim said the ACDO is an archdiocesan tax based on the number of families,

debt owed, and money in the bank. It will go up from \$36,000 to about \$48,000 with the budget cuts and will go up to about \$70,000 or more when our debt is paid off. The rule is still that new construction must be fully funded before it will be approved by the Archdiocese. The Finance Committee has looked at situation, but found that there is a negligible difference between taking longer to pay off the loan vs. paying off earlier and paying more in tax.

- f. **Security:** Cathy Krittenbrink asked about the Security meetings that have been held and wanted to know who is supposed to be responsible for this issue. Father Tim said that he will meet with Dennis Kunnanz and Jerry Krittenbrink to determine whether or not an ad hoc committee should be formed to address the issue. Ladine Kunnanz included idea of developing a comprehensive emergency preparedness plan.

**5. Announcements:**

- a. Our next meeting will be February 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- b. Father Tim thanked Charlie and Nicole for all of their work on the proposed constitution.
- c. Next month's agenda will include space concerns, How's Your Life updates, the directory, and the proposed constitution.

6. **Closing:** The meeting was closed with a prayer led by Father Tim at 8:33 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Ladine Kunnanz  
Pastoral Council Secretary**