

**St. Monica Catholic Church  
Pastoral Council Meeting  
October 25, 2011 (November 8, 2011)**

**Members Present:** Father Ray Ackerman, Andy Cobb, Ladine Kunnanz, Tony Orel, Nicole Owens, Marcus Hamman, Helen O'Connor, CeCe Dan (proxy for Dana Williams), Trish Kuper, and Tia Carlton.

**Members Absent:** Jerry Krittenbrink, John Robin, Rudy Huizar, Deacon Hunt, Cedar Torres, Greg Greenlee, Tim Krist, Chris Pribil, and Gayle Stanfill.

**Guests Present:** Carmen Snow, Charlie Bohan, Karissa Pacione, and Soosie Nieman

**1. Call to Order:**

Chairman Andy Cobb called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

**2. Opening Prayer--Breaking Open the Word:**

Father Ray Ackerman led the opening prayer. Marcus Hamman shared the Gospel of Matthew, 25:14-30.

**3. Welcome of Guests:**

Andy Cobb welcomed guests Charlie Bohan, Soosie Nieman, Carmen Snow, and Karissa Pacione.

**4. Correspondence:**

Father Ackerman attended a Priests' Council meeting last week. The Health Panel for Priests has been revised with an aim to be more proactive. The Personnel Board of the Priests' Council continues to be proactive in interviews of priests, to see how the priests are doing and feeling about their work in the Church. Father Ackerman will be a part of the Good Leaders/Good Shepherds program this coming year (18 months), which will be held at the Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City.

**5. Review of Minutes of Last Meeting:**

The minutes of the September 27, 2011, Pastoral Council meeting were read and approved as submitted.

## 6. Old Business:

### a. Financials:

1. Jerry Krittenbrink was not in attendance, but said (via Andy Cobb) for members to contact him (Jerry) with any questions regarding the submitted Financial Report.
2. Father Ackerman mentioned the Parish will receive payment from insurance regarding the water damage of October in various places in the church. The Parish will be installing pans and water sensors with each hot water tank to guard against potential future leakages and damage.

### b. Board Structure--Motion for PC Constitution Changes:

1. Nicole Owens proposed letting the Constitution Changes Ad Hoc committee meet to finalize all appendix changes, for presentation to the Pastoral Council in January.
2. Nicole moved to accept all the changes in the Articles, which will reduce the Council number to 9 members. The changes will also allow for any other ex officio members to be appointed by Father Ackerman as Father Ackerman sees fit. All Board chairs are always welcome to attend any meetings.
3. The motion passed by majority vote.
4. Trish Kuper mentioned concerns about the Council excluding Board chairs, if the changes go through, by giving voice to the At-Large members instead. Andy Cobb and Ladine Kunnanz explained that any Board chairpersons or members with any concerns could be given a voice in a Council meeting by asking to be placed on the agenda.
5. Father Ackerman spoke of how large our Pastoral Council is compared to any other Parish in the state.
6. Discussion ensued over how the Council was structured at the birth of the Parish in regard to At-Large and Board members: in the past, committee representatives (not Board chairs) did not have an official voice in voting matters before the Council.

**c. Church Roof:**

Since the roof replacement is ongoing, there were leaks after the rainstorm of November 7. The crews will repair all leaks they find.

**d. Pastoral Council Nominations:**

Parishioners Soosie Nieman, Carissa Pacione, and Taylor McGarry have expressed interest in filling the three At-Large positions on the Council. Holy Spirit Selections will take place at our next meeting, on November 29, 2011.

**e. Church Web site:**

1. All the Parish digital artwork has been given to the Web site designers at Level 9, for the home page. The work done so far on the home page will be reviewed by the Web site committee. The work seems to be progressing well. The committee will continue to meet to generate ideas for site content, from photographs to homilies to podcasts. A screen shot of the under-construction home page will be emailed to Council members for their review.

2. Boards will need to determine a media liaison, who will then meet with the Web site committee to get the liaison's Board's content on the site.

3. A secure payment site on the Parish site would require additional cost to the Parish, but it is a possibility to be added. The Parish accountant would need to be involved in this venture, should it come to fruition.

**7. New Business:**

**a. Catholic Charities:**

1. Charlie Bohan gave the report of the October 19, 2011, quarterly meeting: Catholic Charities just put out a Disaster Relief Webinar, as a way to help coordinate relief efforts with other Parishes and other churches in the community and state.

2. Catholic Charities recently sent out stylized and informative packets on all the services offered by their ministry.

3. Catholic Charities has partnered with Parishes and agencies to fill the housing needs of families in transition.

4. Catholic Charities has partnered with Methodist and Baptist churches to form a "Furniture Bank" on 10th Street, in Oklahoma City, to help provide furniture to families in need.
5. The former St. Anne's nursing home has been converted into 610- and 550-square-foot assisted living quarters for low-income senior citizens and their spouses.
6. The Family Hope Program gives assistance to families in need by following a tiered plan of action.
7. Upcoming seminars include: Prospective on the Death Penalty Symposium (Sunday, November 13, 3-5 PM); CCHD will be kicked off soon, and Adult Enrichment Symposiums will soon begin at the Pastoral Center.

**b. Strategic Planning Committee:**

Nicole Owens gave the report. The committee met and finalized recommendations from the Parish survey. The committee concluded:

1. Until space is added, R.E./Faith Formation programs can't be upgraded much.
2. Liturgical Music and Deacon's Involvement were the least popular topics on the survey. Suggestions were to improve music at the 8 AM Mass, and to inform Parishioners about the duties and work of the Deacons.
3. Should the Parish work on a tithing campaign to improve the percentage of Parishioners who tithed?
4. "Obligation of Faith" and "Eucharist" were the top two answers to the question of "What draws you to St. Monica?"
5. To the question of volunteerism, the survey showed Parishioners were unsure of the ways in which to volunteer in the Parish, and that many Parishioners had never been personally asked to volunteer.
6. The following areas need to be studied in depth: 1. Concern/perception with 2nd collection. Is that holding people back? 2. Increase in commitment to tithing. 3. Get numbers from the last stewardship drive regarding participation rate and compare to now.
7. Every parishioner who responded that they volunteered seemed to volunteer an average of 1.5 hours per week.

The Survey Committee will give this information to the appropriate Boards, so those Boards can make plans as needed to address the questions raised.

Approximately 225 people responded to the survey, either on paper or via email.

**8. Announcements:**

1. The next Pastoral Council meeting will be Tuesday, November 29, 2011.
2. Father Ackerman thanked Nicole for presenting the recommendations made by the Survey Committee.
3. Carmen Snow announced the Hispanic Ministry is offering a retreat at St. Monica on November 19, from 8 AM-4:30 PM, in the Parish Hall and classrooms. All are welcome!

**9. Closing Prayer:**

Father Ray Ackerman led the closing prayer.

**10. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

*---These minutes respectfully submitted by Pastoral Council secretary Tia Carlton on November 9, 2011.*