

Minutes of The April 16, 2008 Parish Council Meeting

Church of The Resurrection

In Attendance: Father Mark Hobson, Lisa Frey, Terry Battaglia, Kathy Rinehart, Jane Hogan, Mark Hura, Mike Behnke, Murray Mayo, Mary Ann Theby, John Shovary, Louise Cox, and Sandy Patrick.

Absent: Suzanne Horvath

1. Terry Battaglia began the meeting by reading from "*Prophets of a Future Not our Own*" by Archbishop Oscar Romero.
2. A brief discussion was had on the services and activities of Holy Week 2008. Generous compliments were given for the effort put forth for all who were involved in making Holy Week at Church of the Resurrection a spiritually meaningful experience. It was also expressed that the subsequent Sunday masses during this Easter season have continued to provide abundant spiritual food in a wonderful environment.
3. Father Mark discussed the Draft, Vibrant Parish Life II, Cluster Plan for the Parishes of Church of the Resurrection, SS Cosmas and Damian and St. Rita.

Initiative No. 1: *Continue to Explore Collaborative Possibilities to Strengthen Pastoral Care in an Equitable Manner.* Father Mark indicated that the group tried to get an assessment of the needs of our own parish territory. Father Mark agreed to head up the coordination for this initiative with the priests from the other two cluster parishes. Thought is being given to publishing a cluster directory of events at all 3 parishes to make all events available to a wider group. The directory would also eliminate the possibility of competing events on the same day/evening.

Initiative No. 2: *Strengthen Efforts to Provide a Welcoming and Evangelizing Presence for the Growing Numbers of Racially and Culturally Diverse People.* This initiative will be an ongoing

concern as we explore ways to raise our consciousness to develop opportunities to reach out to minorities in our cluster community.

Initiative No. 3: *Engage all of our Faithful in Regularly Attending and Participating in the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy.* A main focus/concern was on the absence of youth. Emphasis will be placed on increasing social activities and prayer experiences.

Initiative No. 4: *Continue to Support Church in the City Partnerships through Cluster to Cluster Cooperation.* The Interfaith Hospitality Network at St. Rita's was explained. This Network allows a parish to "host" a homeless family during their transition period. This is an opportunity that all 3 parishes might be able to participate in. A committee is being formed with members from all 3 parishes to discuss ways to keep a Roman Catholic presence in the Mt. Pleasant area in Cleveland.

Father Mark discussed the letter he prepared to the Cluster Planning Team for St. Cecilia, Epiphany, and Our Lady of Peace Parishes. All agreed that the well drafted correspondence reflected the sentiments of Parish Council.

Initiative No. 5: *Continue to Monitor Enrollment Trends and Collaborate to Insure the Long Term Presence of a Strong, Stable Catholic School Serving This Area and Adjacent Clusters.* It was recognized that a common goal for all 3 parishes is to keep St. Rita School, (K through 8), viable for all parents who want to provide their children with a solid Roman Catholic education. It was acknowledged that a hurdle to increasing enrollment is the quality education provided by the Solon City School System. This initiative will generate much discussion and exploration in the future.

4. A status of St. Jude's property was provided. The diocese CFO estimated that it would cost \$500,000 to demolish the existing buildings. It was thought that selling land alone, (without the buildings which are being vandalized), might be more attractive. Neither the Cleveland Diocese or The Church of The Resurrection currently has \$500,000 available for this demolition expense.

Real Estate Professionals have estimated that the property might sell for \$1 to \$1.5 million.

5. Terry Battaglia provided handouts for next month's meeting: US Conference of Catholic Bishops on The Growth and Development of the Church's Ministry with Adolescents; and Cluster Planning Committee Report on Youth Ministry.

Terry indicated there have been youth cluster events for about 2 years. Youth programs begin in the 9th grade and run through college. 3 events were established for 2008-2009 beginning with a Lake County Captains baseball game this summer (night game with fireworks – Friday, June 27, 2008; \$19.00 per person for dinner and ticket); a Youth Ministry Retreat Day in the fall 2008 (Resurrection); and a Youth Ministry Food Fast the first week of February 2009 (SS. Cosmas and Damian).

All are encouraged to read Terry's handouts prior to our next meeting.

Our Next Meeting is May 21, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.