

**Minutes St. Pius X Pastoral Council Meeting
June 7, 2006**

Attendees: Jesse Senore, Theresa Cornell, Mary Senore, Jim Banks Sr., Joan Beal, Andy Litcher, Sandy Litcher, Mary Gordon, Tony Doman, Richard Flaherty, Jeanne McKew

Opening Prayer:

Minutes from March. 2 meeting approved

Discussion: School subsidy Jesse Senore and Theresa Cornell-representatives of St. Pius who serve on the Cluster 28 Finance Council, enlightened the pastoral council on the topic of school subsidy and our parish financial responsibility to St. Brigid's. Our portion of the subsidy is \$45,000. St. Patrick's portion is also \$45,000. St. Joseph's Church's portion is \$90,000. Theresa explained that St. Pius recent past shows the parish has not paid more than \$9,000. Quite a jump in subsidy for St. Pius parish. Time was taken at this point for Jim Banks to up-date uninformed council members as to the subsidy formula process and background of the cluster school committee process. Jesse shared his feelings on believing there has been a prior agenda for the school(s) all along. Many members were in agreement. The Cluster Committee requested from the Diocese a grant or interest free loan of \$100,000 to up-grade the Fr. Hayes Center which is to be used for St. Brigid's. \$60,000 to create classrooms and \$40,000 for roof and siding on the Fr. Hayes Center. Theresa saw the external work as a parish expense. The council unanimously agreed.

In the end both requests were denied.

School Loan Discussion On Wednesday, June 6, 2007 Fr. Smith was approached by Msgr. Caron at St. Pius rectory with a loan application for St. Brigid's School in the amount of \$150,000. He told Fr. Smith he was basically co-signing a loan for which the school was responsible for paying. Without consulting either the St. Patrick's pastoral council or the St. Pius X Pastoral Council or feeling he had any time to do so Fr. Smith signed the loan. At the time of the pastoral council meeting no other information was available about the loan. The council then discussed what recourse we may have. There was a motion to write a letter to Msgr. Caron cc the Bishop requesting that Fr. Smith's signature be rescinded until the council had an opportunity to review it. Mary was to draft the letter and email it to Tony who would then edit it. (Final letter attached). After the motion was approved Jim Banks asked each member for their input. Which they gave-as a whole the

council felt the whole process was handled unprofessionally and that Msgr. Caron took advantage of the vulnerable position St. Pius is in due to our pastor leaving within a couple of weeks.

Elections: Nominations have been collected. 43 different names were on the ballots. Mary would contact the two people with the most nominations to see if they would accept the position of serving St. Pius on the pastoral council. One 3 year term the other a 2 year term. Beginning in our fiscal year, July 1, 2007 Joan Beal will serve as Chairperson, Tony Doman will serve as Vice President. Mary will call Bob O'Brien to see if he will continue as Finance Chair.

Fundraising: Theresa rescinded her letter of resignation for the fund raiser chairperson. (Was that a serious Theresa?) She also said that the Christmas wreath sale done by the Catholic Elementary schools in the past may not continue so St. Pius can corner that market and use the money raised from the wreath sale to generate revenue for the parish's school subsidy.

Old Business Knights of Columbus will set up, cook and serve at our Parish Picnic.

New Business Speaking on behalf of Stewardship Commission chairperson, Jean Leonard who was unable to attend the meeting, Joan Beal asked if the council would please take some time to read an article from America the National Catholic Weekly Magazine, WHAT VOCATION SHORTAGE? (attached) Jean would like to see discussion on this topic on the council's next agenda.

Other Business Tony Doman serves on the Interfaith Build as a representative for the Catholic faith. Tony shared with the council information on an event that the Build is involved in-Mugglefest which will take place Friday July 20, 2007 from noon-midnight. This is a fund raising event for a youth organization but Habitat's Interfaith Build will have a booth (s) which all proceeds will benefit Habitat For Humanity. Mugglefest is to celebrate the last book of the Harry Potter series. Mugglefest will take place on the wharf in Portland (by the Narrow Gauge Railroad). You may see Tony strolling about as Hagrid!. The Interfaith Build is also planning a Halloween Party in the fall. Details to come.

Closing prayer

Next Meeting: August 2, 2007 (orientation for new members) 7PM

Respectfully submitted by:

Mary Gordon

