

Divine Mercy Catholic Church
Joint DMCC/DMCS Meeting – August 12, 2008
Minutes
Approved September 9, 2008

1. Call to Order: Christine Shaffer called the meeting to order.

2. Opening Prayer: Fr. Michael led the opening prayer.

3. Pastor's Report (DMCC/DMCS)

- Evolution of joint meeting-We need to realize we are one ministry. DMCS is an integral part of the one ministry. It will help us manage time better, give an opportunity for PPC to hear the principal's report. Also good to have faculty and staff representatives on the school board.
- Spirit Fest-Fr. Kevin encouraged our attendance and volunteering to sell raffle tickets.
- Gift of time-Fr. Kevin expressed that our greatest gift is time. He appreciates everyone's gift of giving a couple hours of time tonight.
- Welcome to Bob Seidel, new principal at DMCS.
- New Church- We will be using the 1 Peter prayer as our theme this year. Phase 1 is the building of the church. Phase 2: We are being built up, living stone vision. What does it mean to be a church of living stones? The heart of Father's vision is on Stewardship in that all I have is a gift from God and as I live it I want to live a life of gratitude. He encouraged us to renew, Take 10-especially us as leadership of the parish-need to come from a sense of who we are in Christ. There is an expectation that we attend Mass every Sunday and visit the Adoration Chapel regularly. We need to demonstrate our faith by praying with family at least one time/week and read the Gospel. Family is the church. If we can't pray and go to church, why be on the school board or PPC? Need to ask ourselves how we are using our time.
- Lectio Divina-Prayer is about giving our time. Fr. Kevin will be presenting a session on prayer September 20 from 9:15 – 11:00 am.

4. Principal's Report (DMCS)

- Glad to be back in Minnesota
- Bob expressed praise for the school and Betty. She laid the groundwork for faith and academics to be wedded together.
- Vision-superior academics and kids who end up in Heaven. Put God first, kids second. Where is the school in this grand parish? It is a ministry of the parish and needs to faithfully support what's in the parish. God loves and knows so much – only when we are in relationship with God will we be happy. Bob wants kids to experience intimacy with God. He asked the questions: Does our staff reflect this? Do we love each other? Do we think the best of each other at all times? We need an inviting place for people to come and be loved.

Divine Mercy Catholic Church
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting – August 12, 2008
Minutes
Approved September 9, 2008

1. Call to Order: Christine Shaffer called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call:

Present: Fr. Kevin, Fr. Fernando, Lisa Sammon Roach, Carolyn Heskett, Dennis Germann, Christine Shaffer, Karen Sommers, Patti Gartner, John Tobin, Lois Donahue Cleary, Doug Knutson, Bill Skluzacek, Jeff Pridie, Shane Pemrick, Betty Berge, Jorge Martinez

Absent: Kerry McCarthy

3. Parishioner Comment:

- Question was asked if utility bid is firm. Lisa explained that if they run into needed changes we can do a change order.
- Jorge shared the impact of the priest transition on the Latino group. He said there can be both problems and opportunities. He said that Latinos join the church as a group. He said people have disappeared after Fr. Thomas left. He said they have not seen who is taking on the role of Fr. Thomas to pull people together. He said they haven't seen Fr. Fernando enough. The biggest problem is with the older parishioners due to the language barrier. Hispanic Ministry has dropped a lot. They aren't looking for special treatment but there are special needs for the Hispanic Community. Fr. Kevin said he, Fr. Fernando and Zulema have discussed this and will continue to discuss. Fr. Kevin encouraged all PPC members to attend the Spanish Mass.

4. Consent Agenda Items:

- John Tobin reported that the Finance meeting was cancelled due to new software and system was unable to print a report at this time.

5. Council Expectations:

- Christine reviewed the expectations of members of the PPC.
- Fr. Kevin shared a handout on the Characteristics of Ideal Leaders. He wants PPC members to be supportive and express opinions wholeheartedly.

6. New Beginnings:

- Bricks are being laid, 24 bricklayers working on the job-exciting to see the walls going up.
- In June, DMCC received a letter from the union indicating that if we employed a certain company they would picket because this company didn't pay a just wage. Fr. Kevin discussed with the Trustees and it was decided that in the best interest of DMCC we would use a second company. The first company was upset, threatened to picket and sent a letter expressing their wanting to take further action. We are in the process of talking it through to seek reconciliation. There is discord among some parishioners because some employees of the first company are members of DMCC. The implications of being

picketed and the extra expense of providing a double gate and other issues lead the leadership to pursue another company. It was never about the quality of the company's work; a decision was made based on all the information.

- Fr. Kevin said because people (good parishioners) are hurt, if you have questions, ask. Let Fr. know if you want a copy of the letter. He advised us, as PPC members, to listen to people who have questions and tell them you will address it at a PPC meeting. We need to work and speak as one body; avoid triangulation. Always know you can approach Fr. Kevin. We strive to bring justice to everyone.

7. Visions/Goals/Objectives 08 – 09:

- Focus on new church-foster unity. We want God to say that through the process you loved one another.
- Stewardship-our time, talent and treasure are gifts from God. We need to pray every day.
- Dedication of new church and consecration by the Archbishop-lots of work to prepare.
- Fr. Kevin invited members to go forward in their understanding of stewardship-read Bishop's Pastoral Letter and the Four Pillars of Stewardship.

8. Stewardship Conference:

- Fr. Kevin, Patti and Karen shared reflections of the conference.
- Will share with Stewardship Committee, develop a focus and bring to PPC next month.

- 9. Spirit Fest:** Huge fellowship = huge fundraising. We need people to attend. PPC members were encouraged to attend, wear name tags to identify you as a PPC member and volunteer to sell tickets. Mass is at 10:00 am in the grandstand.

Closing Prayer – The Mission Prayer was read.

Next meeting is September 9

- **6:00 at New Church Site**
- **7:00 Tomlinson Center**

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Gartner, Secretary