

Divine Mercy Catholic Church
Joint DMCC/DMCS Meeting – September 9, 2008
Minutes
Approved October 14, 2008

- 1. Call to Order:** Mike Donkers called the meeting to order.
- 2. Opening Prayer:** Doug Knutson led the opening prayer.
- 3. Pastor's Report (DMCC/DMCS)**
 - The evening started with a tour of the new church site. Discussion followed at meeting.
 - Fr. Kevin attended a dedication on Sunday at St. Peter's in North St. Paul. We will need to be scheduling and planning the dedication of our new church.
 - Fr. Kevin commended DMCS for a great start to the new school year.
 - Family Faith Formation-approximately 400 students registered.
 - Fr. Kevin shared his vision of the new building and reflecting on our lives-as we are the living stones. Stewardship begins with prayer. Starting on 10/19 we will have parishioners do a 1 minute sharing on prayer or talent at Masses. Those sharing will be Parish Council, School Board, staff of parish and school and other parishioners. We will do this for 4 Sundays.
 - Faribault Youth Rally-September 20 starting at 3:00 pm. There will be a pilgrimage to the new church site, candlelight Mass and bonfire with an overnight.
 - 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. There will be a session once per month. Flyer with the schedule sent with the bulletin.

Divine Mercy Catholic Church
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting – September 9, 2008
Minutes
Approved October 14, 2008

- 1. Call to Order:** Karen Sommers called the meeting to order.
- 2. Roll Call:**

Present: Fr. Kevin, Fr. Fernando, Lisa Sammon Roach, Carolyn Heskett, Dennis Germann, Karen Sommers, Patti Gartner, Kerry McCarthy, Doug Knutson, Bill Skluzacek, Jeff Pridie, Shane Pemrick, Jorge Martinez

Absent: Christine Shaffer, John Tobin, Lois Donahue Cleary, Betty Berge
- 3. Parishioner Comment:**
 - Rumor is there won't be a crucifix in the new church. This is not true.
- 4. Consent Agenda Items:**
 - CCW will be hosting the SW Deanery on 9/24 with Mass at 6:00 pm, dinner and program to follow. All are welcome.

- Sister Parish-Father Benjamin from our sister parish in Panajachel, Guatemala will be visiting Divine Mercy 9/30 – 10/8. There will be many opportunities for parishioners to meet him and for him to experience a variety of our ministries.

5. Finance Committee Report:

- No report-Meeting next week. Still working on computer report.

6. Agenda Items:

a. Site Reuse (SH/SL) –

- A meeting conducted by Divine Mercy and the Sertoma Club will be held the 2nd half of October. Discussion will be held regarding a site for the central location of Social Services. A letter will go out inviting the chamber, city, school, 3 Rivers, Ruth's House. The agenda will be to talk about the need and location of such a site. Location could possibly be SH/SL. The social service groups need to create a non profit to own and manage the building. Organizations could rent space.
- Question was asked how Sertoma would be involved. Sertoma would take the initiative to move it forward.
- We don't pay taxes. If the use is non-religious, it would go back on the tax roll.
- Question was asked if money from selling the site would go to pay off the debt. The first place the money would go is into our capital improvement to maintain the school and IC site.
- Question was asked if any other churches expressed interest in either site. A couple newer start-up churches have inquired. The Crux would like to rent and has a stronger interest in SH because of the kitchen and rooms. Lisa said we weren't ready to make a decision yet. St. Michael in St. Michael rents their old church for approximately \$2000/month.
- Things to consider are: Do we sell it for the asking price or back off? What will best help our financial situation? There may be a terrible backlash from people who are not on board with the new church.
- One concern of parishioners is the financial burden for the city of putting utilities out there. DMCC paid for it, the city didn't pay anything.
- Would DMCC have an interest in donating a building for a social services center? If we donated one church it would be hard to sell the other one.
- Question was asked if there was any advertisement to the Archdiocese that these buildings are open for acquisition. The answer is not yet. We haven't made a decision to sell them to date.
- There still is a big concern in the community about the state of the school. So it helps to know we are not letting it go.
- Appraisals of the buildings were completed with the following valuations: SL \$320,000; SLR \$230,000; SH \$595,000; SHR \$165,000.
- We will take a month to reflect on these things and discuss next month. If you have any ideas give them to Fr. Kevin.
- Be careful about spreading rumors-just ask others what their thoughts to gather input.

b. New Beginnings –

- Senior Housing Task Force- Lisa and Fr. Kevin attended a meeting with Catholic Senior Services (CSS) regarding senior housing development in the Archdiocese.

- A firm was hired to do a survey based on an inventory of current senior housing and what the city is doing. It was projected to 2013. There is a need for market rate senior housing and memory care facilities. There is a slight over demand for assisted living and no demand for nursing home beds.
- If we are interested they would do a broader study.
- How would this work? Hypothetically, DMCC would partner with CSS and/or relates CSS entities to create a new non-profit organization. CSS is a non-profit organization. CSS would do their own fundraising (not in Faribault) to get the up front money. DMCC has the land, provide the Catholic connection and most likely have a representative on the Board of Directors.
- The benefits would be that it would be associated with the Catholic Church, the chapel would be close, the school would have elders to come over and volunteer.
- Direction is needed from the PPC. Is it reasonable to enter Sr. Housing into our plan? Should it be with Phase 2 or 3? By winter we will have laid out the plan for Phase 2. Would it be confusing for the community if this is going on at the same time? This would increase the land value. It is a good 1st step to get residential sites next to the church. It would get seniors close to the church. We need to do a full blown market study. This would be good in terms of the whole vision and people could see we are committed to the whole plan.
- PPC approved the Sr. Housing Task Force to meet with CSS to begin to explore this plan. It would add interest to the area. We need to make it clear there would be no money required from us. It is an independent project and not related to either Phase 2 or 3.

c. Stewardship -

- Patti gave a 1 minute sharing on Stewardship. We will have a PPC member share every month.
- Stewardship Sunday- We will focus on time and talent this year and not so much on money.
- Stewardship Fair-Postponed until October 2009. We will highlight each ministry. People will have the opportunity to learn about each ministry before they discern where they would like to volunteer at the 2009 Stewardship Sunday.
- Family Faith Formation-Example of needing more people to share time and talent. Desperately need more people to volunteer to be catechists.
- Karen shared proposal for a commitment card to be used this year. There is an area for time, talent and treasure.
- Karen shared a resource for the PPC-Why Catholics Don't Give
- Jorge shared that attendance at the Hispanic Mass is back up to 50%. He said many people don't attend due to work-many people work every other weekend. He said the Hispanic group is not giving what it costs to provide Hispanic Ministry. They are looking at ways to increase contributions of time, talent and treasure. He pointed out there are 14 Masses each week and only one is in Spanish. If there could be one extra Mass each week it would help people feel they belong to the church and increase contributions. They did a survey and found that Sunday from 7-8 pm would be best. This request will have to be taken into consideration with St. Patrick and St. Michael as well. New Mass schedule will need to be developed with opening of the new church.

- New parishioner welcome-Question was asked – ‘How do we call the missing sheep?’ We need to be focusing on lax Catholics as well as welcoming new parishioners.
- Document ‘The Pillars of Parish Stewardship’ pp 1- 13 distributed. All were asked to read and be ready to discuss questions on p. 13. It will also be given to the DMCS Board.
- Survey-we are planning to conduct a survey to get feedback from all parishioners. What information do we want to know? Bring your ideas to the next meeting.

e. Spirit Fest-

- Income up \$10,000 from 2007.
- Feedback on the day was phenomenal!
- Next Spirit Fest-August 16, 2009.
- Rumor that Lisa and Fr. Kevin are opposed to moving Spirit Fest to new site next year. There has been no decision on the location of Spirit fest for next year. The Spirit Fest Committee will decide where it will be next year. There are tremendous advantages to having it at the Fairgrounds as well as our new site.

f. Clustering Update-

- Meeting on 9/28 cancelled.
- Looking at how we will proceed with clustering. The Archdiocese is beginning to evaluate how clustered parishes will work together.
- Question –How long will St. Patrick and St. Michael relate to us? Need direction from the Archdiocese. We share priests but not programs. Are there other ways to work more effectively together?

g. Review and Development Committee-

- October 13-1st Joint Review and Development Committee meeting. Invite all committees.
- Format-30 minutes of common time. Discussion on what is R & D Committee, vision, report from each committee, individual committee meetings.

h. Standing Committee Assignments-

Opportunity to sign up with Lisa after the meeting or be assigned!

Closing Prayer – The Mission Prayer was read.

Next meeting is October 14th

- **6:45 Adoration Chapel**
- **7:00 Tomlinson Center**

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Gartner, Secretary