

Minutes of the November 2, 2006 Stewardship Commission Meeting

Attendees: Deacon John Nicholson, Elisa Riedl, Mark Nevils, Sheila Leonard, Ursula Lyons, Jim McCarthy

Review October Meeting Minutes: Further discussion about feedback mechanisms. It is acknowledged that the parish website can be a powerful tool. Commission members are asked to log into parish website and check out the new Contact Us section:

- ❖ Look at Forms Test menu item, submit your feedback on the form. Feedback/question is forwarded as an e-mail to Deacon John.
- ❖ Also look at new parishioner registration form. Any fields you feel could be added to the form? Should we add a ministry-interest field?

Recap of St. Zepherin's, Wayland Meeting: Acknowledgement that it was a worthwhile discussion. Their emphasis has been on treasure, whereas ours has been on time and talent. They recommended that we add a feedback mechanism to our website. Both teams agree that personal witness talks are a powerful tool.

Parish Offertory July/October 2006: While identified offertory offerings are up in this period (Jul – Oct), it is felt that October Mass headcount will probably show a decline from a year ago. While the 9:30am Mass continues to be well-attended, the 11:30am attendance appears to be off.

Discuss Comments from Commission Members: Members who had submitted comments to Deacon John provided more in-depth explanation on their comments. Elisa had several comments as to how the ministry directory could be reformatted. She suggested that a matrix up-front may be helpful which would highlight when each ministry meeting is held, e.g. daytime, night, frequency, commitment required. This would help parishioners identify which ministries might best fit their personal schedules and time availability.

Elisa also discussed the possibility of a “scrapbook of ministries” which would consist of a pictorial overview of ministry involvement. She has recently seen books like this at new school orientations and found them helpful.

- ❖ Elisa Riedl to evaluate the feasibility of creating a “ministry scrapbook.”

Mark Nevils recommends that we solicit and respond to parishioner inquiries/feedback in an effective manner. The question was raised as to whether we should position the Stewardship Commission as the receiver/responder to inquiries/feedback received via the parish website.

Ministry Directory Update: We would like to improve on the format and content of the directory, using a more durable cover, binding, and more current desktop publishing template.

- ❖ Deacon John to forward guidelines used last year as to how to update the ministry directory (done 11/03/06)
- ❖ Deacon John to issue an updated ministry liaison contact sheet (done 11/03/06)
- ❖ Stewardship Commission members to contact their assigned ministries to verify contact information, update content information, and solicit feedback from ministries.

Ministry Open House 2007: Preliminary discussion as to the possible effort required to conduct another ministry open house in 2007. Previous ones were held in 2004 and 2005.

- ❖ Jim McCarthy to forward ministry groupings which were used in 2005 ministry fair.
- ❖ Jim McCarthy to forward guiding questions which were developed as guides to individual discernments to parish ministries.

Stewardship Goals for 2006/2007: Our December meeting will start with, and focus on, setting measurable goals for 2007. With a variety of possible projects and programs, we will need to discuss the feasibility of breaking down into subgroups to address the various priorities.

Next Stewardship Commission Meeting: Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 7:30pm