**REPORT – PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**THURSDAY October 15, 2015 - 6:30PM**

**In Attendance**: Rey Blancarte, Suzanne Pacheco, Angie Reynolds - Members

Susan Bonner - President, Father Charlie Garza - Pastor, Judy Tixier-Fyall - Parish Business Manager and Ex Officio member

Susan led the opening prayer. Angie made a motion to adopt the September 24, 2015 meeting minutes, seconded by Rey, motion passed.

**Variance Request for Food Trailers / Bar on RR 12**

Follow up to variance request for property across the street from St. Martin de Porres Church at RR12/Post Oak Rd. Father Charlie and several staff / parish members attended City Council meeting to express opposition and safety concerns to the request for a variance for “Conditional Use Permits” for food trailers and bar/lounge. The City Council members vetoed the Conditional Use Permit requests. The petitioner will likely go back and rework plans to request variance at a later date.

**Ministry Fair**

Susan shared comments and suggestions about the Ministry Fair that she received from the ministry leaders. Overall it went very well, and several ministries had new members signing up. Suggestions included:

* Incorporate Spanish community into full parish wide ministry fair. Spanish Ministry fair was held earlier in the year.
* Pop-up tents or some other shade solution
* 1st / 2nd / 3rd prizes for “best” decorated tables, as several groups put a lot of effort and creativity into their table displays

Better response requested from Pastoral Council members with availability and participation. Going forward, please “reply all” with availability.

There was a suggestion to have another ministry fair next spring. This idea will be taken up by Pastoral Council for discussion to review parish calendar and possible dates next April.

**Financial Summary**

Judy Tixier, Business Manager, reviewed the financial summary for the first quarter to be included in the parish bulletin. Father Charlie commented that we are on target, focusing on paying down debt. After which, we will begin looking at deferred maintenance projects.

**Building Committee Update**

Father Charlie provided an update on the current progress of the building committee plans and suggestions for a new multi-purpose building. Information can be found on the www.stmartindp.org website under “Building Committee” minutes.

**Fall Festival**

The Pastoral Council will man the T-Shirt booth for the Fall Festival. Susan, and Suzanne volunteered, Susan will see if any more are needed and advise if so. Susan to follow up with Nicole Browning, organizer for the Fall Festival.

**Divine Renovation**

The rest of the meeting was devoted to extensive discussion on Divine Renovation. Father Charlie is proposing a change in focus for the Pastoral Council and requested that all of us pray and consider our commitment to this new vision. Specifically, we would shift from the current advisory role to a more active ministry role, leading the ministry heads in regular discussion groups on the chapters of the Divine Renovation book on a quarterly basis. The objective is to focus St. Martin’s identity as a “missionary” church and to “make disciples”.

The quarterly Ministry meetings will begin December 1, 2015. The ministry leaders will all have copies of the book, and we will break into discussion groups. Father anticipates that the ministry leaders will share this vision with their respective ministry members.

**Next Meeting**

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be November 19, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

**Closing Prayer** offered by Susan Bonner.

**Meeting Concluded** at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Pacheco (for Patrick Manning)