

St. Anne's Pastoral Council Meeting  
May 23, 2012

Members of Pastoral and Finance Council Members in Attendance:  
Father Brandon, Margaret Shore, Joan Cahill, Ben Huerta, Graciela Huerta, Annette Murdaca, Juan Herrera, Donna Dominguez, Thelma Ahn, Angie Rogan, Tom Driscoll, Dan Connolly, Judy Kenney, Mike McCay, Tim Brosnan, Teresa Locke

Meeting opened with Adoration, Evening Prayer, and Benediction in the Chapel

Presentation on Street Closure by guests, Bob Smith and Bill Rogan:  
A Feasibility Study was prepared by Bob Smith and presented to members of both councils. The report was developed for the potential permanent street closure of Walnut Street between Church and Pleasant Streets in an effort to unify the campus of St. Anne's community. Bob reviewed the main points of his report:

- Objective: To determine the feasibility of the street closure, the support/objections behind it, and if funds should be invested to obtain the street closure. The project would be a win-win for both the city of Lodi and St. Anne's.
- Action: A letter from Wally Sandelin, Public Works Director, was returned to Father Brandon stating "this project does not have widespread support from the staff in Public Works and other departments." Mr. Bob Smith made several attempts to contact Mr. Sandelin, but he has been out of town. In order to perform the analysis of the closure, Bob met with numerous city and private individuals to determine economic feasibility and potential support or objections toward the project. These individuals included: Mayor, Bob Johnson, City Manager, Rad Bartlam, Fire Chief, Larry Rooney, and members of the city council. He also met with Father Brandon and Teresa Locke for updates and progress reports.
- Findings: Upon further review, the opinion stated by Wally Sandelin did not appear to be consistent with the other people Bob spoke with from the city. Rad Bartlam, the City Manager, had some concerns (these are listed in Mr. Smith's report) but his overall impression of the project was positive. He felt the street closure was a benefit to community beautification, downtown revitalization, and a unified

campus for St. Anne's. Overall comments from city council members were positive and enthusiastic.

- Conclusion: Mr. Smith reviewed both positive aspects and potential objections to the proposal. The possible objections included fire department re-routing, traffic and parking impact, and vehicle access to Hutchins Street Square. Bob suggested a turnabout on the Pleasant Street side and more curvature on the Church Street side of the closure. Bob also recommended St. Anne's hold an open forum for neighbors of the church and school to answer questions about the project. This might include going door to door to speak with neighbors and hosting a BBQ to solidify the support of the community around St. Anne's. After review of Bob's interviews with city members, he suggested St. Anne's submit the application, get approval of the project, raise the money, get the permits and move forward with construction. He recommended St. Anne's notify the city up-front with their plans for project start date and completion.
- A formal timeline and estimated costs for the application and approval process were included in Mr. Smith's report. In his opinion, \$30,000 would be the high number for city-related costs, engineering, and consultant fees, and \$18-20,000 would be the low number.
- Final Comment: Mr. Bob Smith's final comment was positive and he believes it is viable for St. Anne's to move forward with the street closure and invest the time, energy and resources toward the application and due diligence process of the project.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Rogan were excused from the meeting and Council members discussed the feasibility study and report. Main points of discussion were:

- Letter from Wally Sandelin, Public Works Director. Is it a good idea to move forward without knowing Mr. Sandelin's position? The comments in his letter contradict the feelings of others on the city council, the mayor, and fire chief.
- Can the fund-raising festival still be held if the street closure occurs and the grounds are altered into a park setting?
- Is it in the budget?
- Need to involve the neighbors; get their support and approval.
- Father Brandon would like to move ahead with the initial phase of the project and plan on completion in 2 years. It is Father's vision to "unite" our parish ministries and community. He sees the project as an outward symbol of the unity of the body of St. Anne's.

The Council voted to spend the money necessary to move the project forward. A committee will be formed to work on the street closure project, and Father Brandon will meet with Mr. Smith and Mr. Rogan to discuss the next step.

Announcement: The Vice-Chair of the Pastoral Council, Annette Murdaca, will take the place of our current Chair, Margaret Shore. The next meeting of the Council will be a transition meeting.

The meeting ended with Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Angie Rogan.