

St. Ann Stewardship Finance Subcommittee Meeting Notes 03/17/2009

The meeting began at 7:00 PM with an opening prayer led by the chairman. In attendance were:
John Burkart
Tom Schmidt
Andy Lampl
Ken Ross
Barb Schermer
Linda de la Court
Mark Hingsbergen – chairman

Fr. Mondiek joined us at approximately 8:10 and attended the remainder of the meeting.

The following programs were updated and discussed:

1. Gift Card Program
 - a. Bulletin insert – Tom brought a printout of an earlier, school-oriented one-page listing of participating businesses as a starting point for the upcoming bulletin insert.
Action Item: Linda offered to re-format the insert and update it for use as a bulletin insert on Palm Sunday (April 4-5). The insert will explain the nature of the Kroger and GFS programs in greater detail. Needed by approximately 3/28 to allow time for printing and inserting into bulletins.
Action Item: Once insert is completed, we will need enough copies for the bulletins and someone to insert them by Friday 4/3.
 - b. It was decided that Palm Sunday would be a good day to have a new drive for the Gift Card Program, particularly the Kroger Cards.
 - c. We will have a pulpit announcement combined with bulletin inserts and persons selling the \$1 Kroger gift cards after all Palm Sunday Masses. Goal is 6 to 8 individuals 16 years or older to sell cards. The cards will be accompanied by a smaller information sheet explaining how to use them.
Action item: Tom will create and print 300 copies of the Kroger-specific handout, and will give the remainder of them to Donna Weber for distribution to the school families.
2. Building & Grounds
 - a. John gave a report on recent B&G activities, and is working with Scott Cepluch to complete a list of jobs to be done and jobs already completed. Andy Lampl reported on progress with refinishing the communion rail and a goal of having this completed by Easter (4/11-12) was confirmed.
Action item: John to provide the list of work items when completed.
3. Electronic Giving campaign
 - a. A report on program progress was given by Mark. Susan's investigations of 3rd party solutions was related, with the conclusion by Fr. Mondiek that these are too expensive. Our approach will be to do the work of setup ourselves.
 - b. A survey card, proposed bulletin insert, and suggested pulpit statement were presented. Comments were requested. Ken suggested the bulletin insert could be shortened.
Action Item: Ken and other members to provide editorial feedback on the insert.
 - c. Barb suggested that the outreach be extended to registered families that are not regular givers. After some discussion of the pros and cons, it was decided that this was a good idea and we will need a condensed mailing to facilitate participation.
Action Item: Barb to develop a single page program explanation combined with the relevant survey card information, to be mailed with the Fifth Third form and a credit card form.
Action Item: Mark to request a set of mailing labels for inactive families from Susan. We will mail to approximately 300 households.

4. Bequest program
 - a. Mark reported no progress since last meeting. Ken offered to contact funeral directors as a first step.

Action Item: Ken to contact primary funeral directors serving the parish to investigate the possibility of adding a donation to St. Ann to their pre-arrangements in order to avoid will re-draft.
5. Endowment Fund
 - a. Linda reported on her research on endowments, with explanations of how principal must be maintained and how each endowment must be separately drafted legally. An executor must also be established. It was suggested that perhaps there is software that would help produce legal endowment agreements to minimize cost and lawyer interventions. This program will work largely with the bequest program since many bequests may be desired in the form of endowments rather than general fund gifts.

Action Item: Linda to continue to investigate how to establish the fund itself and the process of creating endowment agreements.
6. 20/20 Campaign
 - a. Mark reported no additional progress on the 20/20 Vision Campaign. At this point, a target project of \$10-20K is needed. Fr. Mondiek agreed to come up with a list of possibilities. It was agreed it should be something visible. Time frame for introduction would be Pentecost 2009.

Action Item: Fr. Mondiek and Mark to work on a target and finalize program details.
7. Other Items
 - a. Mark reported on the Stewardship Education Subcommittee's plans for a parish census to be conducted during the summer, and the subcommittee's plans for a stewardship campaign in the weeks leading up to Stewardship Sunday (September-October time frame) including a parish ministry fair. Barb made the general observation that all those who came to the October 2008 meeting in the cafeteria need to be contacted (apparently not all were). Mark made the comment that an overall Stewardship Committee chairman is needed and that regular meetings need to be held among the subcommittee heads.

Open discussion followed. Ken suggested someone look into www.catholicweb.com, to see if there might be some way to make use of that to our advantage. Linda suggested a raffle of a close parking spot as a fundraiser. A discussion of the parish web site indicated that an update of stewardship activities is needed.

Action Item: Mark to send May Wolfinger's address to all SFS members (awolfinger@cinci.rr.com). Mark to provide text to May for SFS page.

Next meeting will be 4/21/09.

The meeting was ended at approximately 8:15 PM with a closing prayer led by Fr. Mondiek.