



Blessed Trinity Catholic Community

Strategic Planning Committee.

**Pastoral Council, Finance Council
and Parish Staff.**

Meeting 4: January 14, 2016

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

This meeting of the Strategic Planning Team included Pastoral Council, Finance Council and parish staff in order to meet and dialogue with Architect Carl Posewitz.

The meeting began with prayer around the Ambo, “The Place of the Word.”

In addition, the purpose of this meeting was to discuss preparations for a meeting with the full parish on January 24 to begin initial discussion, reflection and possible implementation of the various elements of the “Site Visit Report.”

Following his introduction, Mr. Posewitz reviewed some elements of the Site Visit Report and noted that his approach would be to “begin from the outside and work our way inside.” He reviewed the current building and pointed out, from an architectural point of view, both strengths and weakness of the facility. Again it was reiterated that his approach, *with which those gathered concurred*, is to begin with site location and orientation.

The “place” and appearance of Blessed Trinity in the neighborhood was discussed and reflected upon. While viewing photographs of the facility discussion of those gathered centered on both the neighborhood context of the building and the need to have a more welcoming appearance to the neighborhood.

Those gathered articulated particular concerns about the building:

- (a) The approach to the building is confusing. The street entrance is unattractive and the turn from Eaton into the parking lot can easily be missed. When a stranger drives into the parking lot, there is no clear indication of where the main entrance is. Where do you enter the Church? Where do you enter the Pastoral offices? Where do you enter the social center?
- (b) The main entrance to the building is in one place but most of the parking is on the west side of the building.

- (c) There is no clear primary entrance.
- (d) Because of this “dual entrance,” there is no one place for people to gather. The gathering space or “narthex” or “vestibule” is very small and does not provide for a good “gathering area.”
- (e) The Blessed Sacrament Chapel, which is an integral element in any Catholic Church, is not clearly evident or apparent to all who enter the building.

The discussion on this evening was lively and creative and provided Mr. Posewitz with material to begin a “designing process” for further discussion and elaboration. The Strategic Team, Pastoral Council and Finance Council directed him to put these concerns and ideas into a visible form to be presented to the full parish on January 24. These will be presented in digital form in order to draw further ideas, concerns, etc. from the parish members at large. It was agreed that before the January 24 meeting he would present these preliminary plans to Fr. Hislop and S. Mary Jo for their review.

It should also be noted that this is a beginning process in order to assist parishioners in establishing priorities as the overall and long term needs of the facilities are evaluated.