

Strategic Planning Team Meeting  
April 24, 2017  
Notes

**Present:** Joe Licitra, Fr. Ed Hislop, Barbara Dryden, David Neu, Doug Glevanik, Jim McDonald, Betty Chrestenson, Caroline Pickolick, Pat Wegner, Joe Mussulman, Sr. Mary Jo Quinn, and Ruth Licitra

**1. Opening Prayer:** Fr. Ed led the Strategic Planning Committee in the Prayer for Pastoral Planning for the Diocese of Helena.

**2. Review of Comments made at the March 26, 2017 Whole Parish Meeting:** Daniel Hampson collated all of the comments made at the table discussions. Fr. Ed asked the group to read over the comments. The group then discussed comments that caught their attention.

- ◆ The south parking lot is distant from the front entrance. This is a problem for parishioners using walkers, canes, or wheelchairs. Suggestion: ask Carl to put more accessible parking spaces in the east and north parking lots.
- ◆ We need accessible doors. Suggestion: automatic doors.
- ◆ We are concerned with a potential bottleneck in the area by the Men's room
- ◆ We could put the organ pipes over the entrance
- ◆ Do we need an environmental buffer zone in the Gathering Space? Fr. Ed's experience at St. Mary's in Helena indicated that we probably would not need one.
- ◆ Will the large amount of glass in the design cause security issues? Fr. Ed mentioned that we already have been broken into through the Social Hall windows.
- ◆ Having the Office facing the Gathering Space will make the Office less isolated. Do we need a bell for the entrance? Will we keep the doors locked during business hours as we do now?
- ◆ What about security issues concerning the neighborhood?
- ◆ We could have access into the Blessed Sacrament Chapel from the Gathering Space. This would allow the Worship Space to be locked when not in use.
- ◆ The lighting has become a more important issue. Fr. Ed commented that once the Gathering and Worship Spaces have been settled, we could plan the lighting.
- ◆ The folding doors to the Social Hall will remain.
- ◆ The emergency exit from the Worship space will be to code.
- ◆ There will be an entrance into the Social Hall from the southwest corner of the building with a sidewalk across the grass.
- ◆ We could offset the chairs to give parishioners sitting in the back a better view of the altar.
- ◆ The chairs need to be connected in order to be in compliance with the Fire Code.
- ◆ We will need additional storage space beyond the shell proposed for Sacristy storage.
- ◆ We haven't finished discussing the kitchen, the Social Hall, and additional storage space.
- ◆ The parish didn't have time to think about particulars before they were asked to discuss the new plan.
- ◆ How practical is the axis Font, Altar, Ambo? Fr. Ed responded that we are limited by the 1.) Space (area) and the design of the building and 2.) Design must be liturgically and theologically proper.
- ◆ Where is the Music Ministry?
- ◆ Could we make accessible doors a priority?

- ◆ We need to build enthusiasm and a “can do” attitude.
- ◆ We will be renovating in stages, but this is a package deal. Financing will be an issue as the Diocese cannot lend us money. Any loans we need will be made with a bank: they will want to know that we can raise the money.
- ◆ The longer we put this off, the more expensive it will be.
- ◆ We need to know the cost.

**3. Next Steps:** Fr. Ed and Sr. Mary Jo will ask Carl Posewitz, architect, to provide a cost estimate for the project and for what we absolutely need to do (font, lighting, exterior paint, wiring, sound, interior walls and paint).

Bishop Thomas has advised that we deal with the facility we have now. The Diocese is not in a position to move Blessed Trinity.

Fr. Ed would like to be able to discuss the cost of the project and a direction with the Strategic Planning Committee by **June 2<sup>nd</sup>**. At that time, the date of the next Whole Parish meeting will be set.

There is a summary of the last Whole Parish meeting in the Bulletin as well as a report on the parish website ([www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org](http://www.blessedtrinitymissoula.org) )

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ruth Licitra  
May 1, 2017