

Pastoral Council Minutes: March 6, 2017

Members Present: Msgr. R. Morris, E. Luker, B. Langley, C. Creamer, S. Paul, M. Ustick, S. Helton, K. Bentley,, G. Green, T. Goodrich

Religious Clergy, Nuns and Laity Present: J Marino, Sr. Rosamunda, members of the Finance Committee and Parish members.

At the request of Msgr. Morris, the March Parish Council meeting was held at the recently purchased property at 3718-139th Ave No. Largo, FL. at 7:00 p.m. The community, referred to as the Coral Heights subdivision, consists of low income residents, immigrants and refugees.. Msgr. announced the City of Largo has approved the property to be opened 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., five days a week, for food and clothing distribution. Sister Rosamunda is assigned as manager and facilitator of the services for the project. The purpose of this parish project is to service the needy in the area with the notion of establishing the property as a community resource center in which the members of the community participate in taking ownership of the care and management of the property in collaboration with the parish. However, other possibilities for use of this community structure will include use by the Coral Heights Association for their community meetings, along with other possible activities such as tutoring children and providing English as a Second Language lessons. Since the purpose of the property is to serve as a resource center for the community, Duke Energy has joined in by establishing a Soccer field across the street on its property in order to provide a place for children to play and the Police Athletic League (PAL) will pay for the insurance on this park. It is hoped that the Sheriff's Department would consider the use of the building as a substation in the area. In addition, Msgr. is hoping for religious exemption status to be granted, opening the possibility for Catholic Charities to aid in the project. At the present time, a name needs to be considered and is open for suggestions. Two suggestions are: Siena Center or Cate's corner.

Everyone was very impressed with the purchase, citing the fine condition of the house, its new windows, A/C and sturdy structure, along with the adjoining three lots, a large shed, and the location of the property right in the middle of the community. Msgr. reminded us of our mission perspective regarding the activities in the house were primarily that of bringing Christ into the community.

Next meeting: April 10, 2017 at 7:00 pm in Room 10.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by Sonia Helton