

MEETING NOTES



Project: The Parish of the Immaculate
2019.020 2.1.2

Date: October 17, 2019
Prepared By: Michael Eagan

The purpose of this Renovation Committee meeting was to begin a dialogue about the architectural implications of the programmatic requirements discussed in the last meeting.

1. The meeting began with the church renovation prayer.
2. The meeting notes dated 9.24.19 were approved without any changes.

Contract Status

3. Michael delivered 4 original contracts incorporating the previously agreed upon changes through discussions with the Diocese, Parish and Architect. Matt was to request that Fr. John execute these documents. *The following week the Diocese noted a few more changes that the parties will strike from the agreement and initial at the next meeting.*
4. Michael noted that he has contacted a local Civil Engineer, Bryant Engineering, Inc. of Owensboro to serve as a Consultant to **entheos** ARCHITECTS on this project. By coincidence, Bill Weikl is employed there and Steve Weaver's brother, David, will be handling the project. Michael will be meeting with Bill and David prior to our next meeting to discuss the scope of the project and the services being requested.

Conceptual Design Discussion

5. Pathways to the existing points of entry (north, south and east) into the Church were identified. The design challenge will be the creation of a main entrance (east) that most of the assembly will naturally utilize. The other entrances need to be utilized primarily as exits to meet egress requirements and certainly for access by those requiring short travel distances from their vehicle.
6. The proposed Gathering Space is likely to occupy the entire area east of the east wall of the Nave, including the covered porch. The Structural Engineer needs to study the implications of removing the walls in this area to confirm if this is feasible.
7. Michael pointed out that the stained glass windows (SGW) in the existing Gathering Space, although attractive, do not give any indication to the community (of Owensboro) that anything is happening within these walls. This condition isn't welcoming or inviting. Michael suggested opening views "into and out of" the Gathering Space with vision glass and perhaps reusing some of the existing SGW. Br. Martin pointed out that the contrast between the vision glass and the SGW would be too severe to produce a desirable result. It was agreed that vision glass in this area is most appropriate.

8. A canopy will be studied as an element to mark the main entrance of the Church. Br. Martin noted a concern with placing the canopy to the east of the Gathering Space, that it might negatively affect the architectural lines and historical image of the Church. The entrance to the Parish Office needs to be maintained and operate independent of the entrances to the Gathering Space for security and practicality. However, the Committee felt that new doors opening to the west, opposite of the Parish Office entrance, could be quite effective as a connection to the west parking lot.
9. Michael explained *entheos* ARCHITECTS' approach to the design of a *new* Catholic church. The design begins at the Altar and works out to the assembly. Desired seating arrangements and points of entry are studied and influence the design. The points of entry affect the design of the site plan. In a renovation like The Immaculate, the points of entry and building footprint are already determined and the design must adjust to and embrace these conditions. In other words, we aren't starting with a blank sheet of paper. That said, the existing Church has many assets that the design can enhance and build upon.
10. Michael shared the concept of placing the Altar on axis with the entry points of the Church, meaning that there is a main (primary) axis and a cross (secondary) axis. The Baptismal Font could be located in the Nave, on the main axis, and just beyond the main doors serving the Gathering Space. The result is that wherever anyone enters the Nave, the Altar is the focus. Preceding the Altar on the main axis could be the Font, reminding the faithful of their baptism each time they enter the Church.
11. The placement of the Altar and Font as mentioned in item 10 above was exciting to some and concerning to others on the Committee. The main concern was the affect on seating capacity. Michael will calculate the current seating capacity as well as the impact on various options studied for the next meeting. The Committee will review attendance records for the various Masses.
12. The Committee noted that there is currently a cross-aisle at the midpoint of the main aisle where 4 pews have been removed. This was done to facilitate more efficient distribution of communion and makes for a shorter journey for those with young children or whose mobility is challenged. Michael shared the concept of the faithful *processing to the Altar to receive communion*. Br. Martin offered the concept of *communion being brought to the faithful* and that a cross aisle can be an asset to the worship environment.
13. Michael noted that the journey to receive communion (without a cross-aisle) is shorter than the journey to the relocated Restrooms.
14. The statues in the Church include the Virgin Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus (front of Nave), the Our Lady of Fatima (over the interior doors to the Nave), and the Blessed Mother (over the exterior doors of the Church). All should be evaluated by the Committee for sentimental / devotional / historical connection to the Parish; artistic merit; scale; etc.
15. The placement of the Tabernacle was briefly discussed. The Committee seemed to like the central location some distance behind the Altar. This placement and the apse-like form behind the Tabernacle presented by *entheos* ARCHITECTS in the Architect interviews will be explored, as well as other locations.

Schedule

16. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 30, 6:00 pm - Renovation Committee Meeting #3. Other meetings previously scheduled include the following:
- a. Sunday, November 3, 1:00 pm - Br. Martin Parish Education Session #2.
 - b. Monday November 18, 5:30 pm - Renovation Committee Meeting #4.
 - c. Sunday, November 24, 1:00 pm - Br. Martin Parish Education Session #3 & Presentation of Schematic Floor Plan.
17. Finally, the Committee was very forgiving for the tardiness of the Architect at this meeting. *I somehow had gotten confused on the time of the meeting (not sure why!) and had no idea until the end of the meeting. The gentle nature of the Committee was greatly appreciated. I will do my best to arrive on time in the future.*

If any of the above does not agree with your understanding, please clarify by return mail within seven days of receipt. Otherwise, Notes shall stand as written.

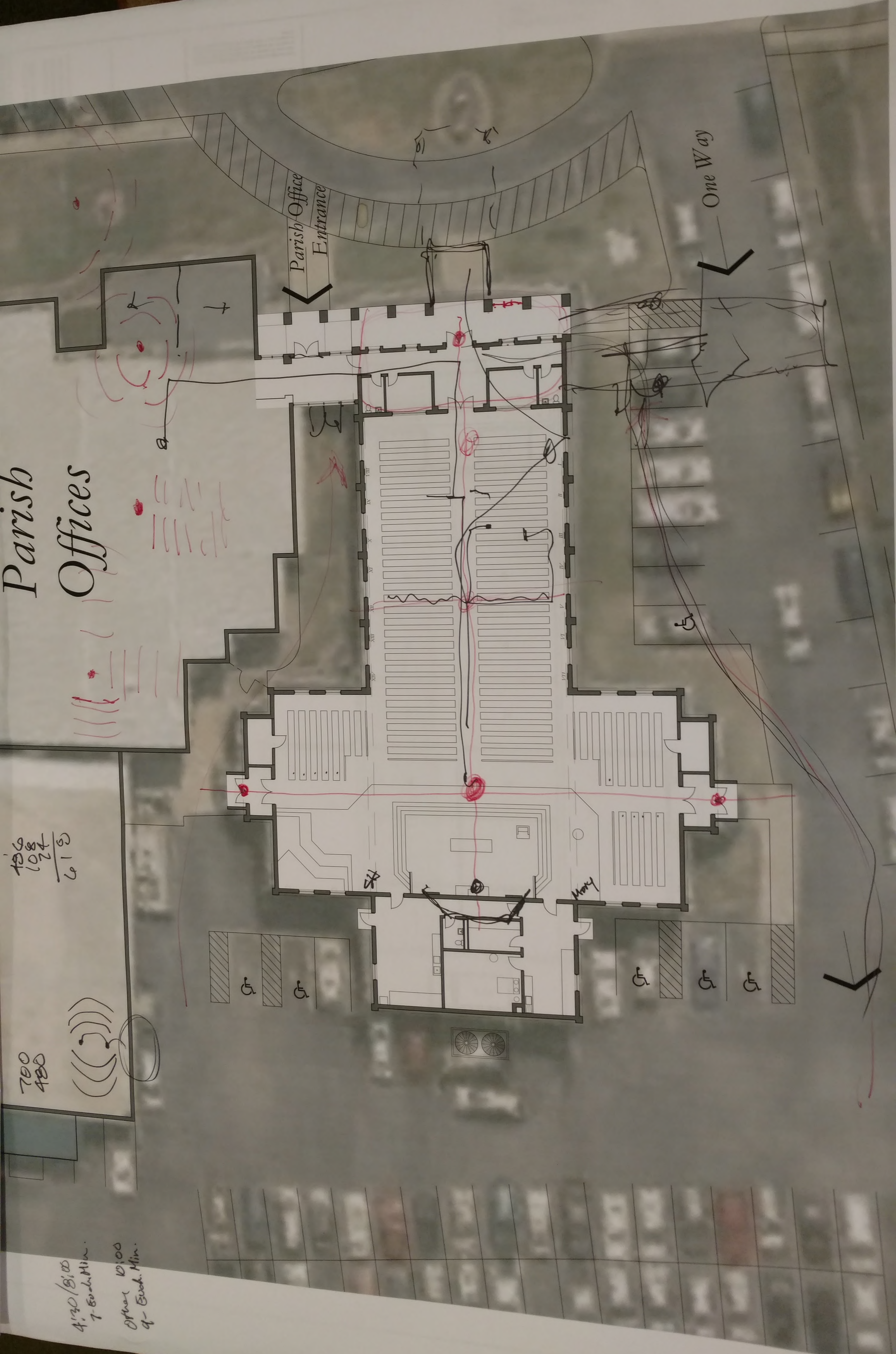
Attended by: Rick Ebelhar Sarah Ford Matt Gray
 Lisa Prendergast Dot Reid Lisa Sims
 Steve Weaver Bill Weikl Br. Martin Erspamer, OSB
 Michael Eagan, *ea*

Absent: John Castlen Julie Renshaw Fr. John Vaughn

eCopy: Renovation Committee
 Design Team (MD, LHB, CDG, MDH, IMEG)
 File

Attachments: Floor Plan

Parish Offices



136
108
24
615

700
400

4:30/8:00
7-8:00 AM

Other 10:00
9-Even. Min.

