

Immaculate Parish Renovation Cmte

Minutes – May 9, 2018

Members Present: Br. Martin, Matt Gray, Fr. Tony, Lisa Prendergast, Lisa Sims, Julie Renshaw, Dot Reid, and Bill Weikel.

Meeting Opened with a Prayer.

Renovation Prayer – Matt (along with Br. Martin's assistance) prepared a prayer for our renovation project, which we used to open tonight's meeting. This might be a prayer that we can place in the binders in the pews to pray during Masses/gatherings at designated times throughout the coming years.

Presentation - Tonight Lisa Prendergast and Lisa Sims presented the final presentation on chapters 3-4 of "Built of Living Stones." Highlights of the chapters were presented along with pictures to exemplify those points. Below are just a few highlighted points:

Chapter 3

-The Church entrusts art with a mediating role: Art is meant to bring the divine to the human world, to the level of the senses, then from the spiritual insight gained through the senses and the sitting of the emotions, to raise the human world to God, to his inexpressible kingdom of mystery, beauty, and life. Therefore art in the church building has a substantial role within worship/liturgy and should be regarded as such in its quality and placement within the church building.

-For art works to serve the Church they need to be worthy of the place of worship, and enhance liturgical, devotional, and contemplative prayer.

-Quality of the art must be genuine, honest, noble, and draw us closer to God.

-The art must also be able to bear the weight of mystery, reverence, awe and wonder of the liturgical action it serves.

Chapter 4

-This chapter deals mostly with helpful guidelines on a renovation project.

- "To be successful, a [renovation] project must be rooted in a proper understanding of the Church and of worship that becomes the point of reference for all future decision making." The process demands prayer, reflection, technical expertise, and study.

The committee should work to deepen a sense of ownership for the project, some of which has already begun.

Other Business

-Br. Martin spent some time showing the group some pictures from architectural firms – specifically those who have worked on churches/Catholic churches. Br. Martin has spoken with a few firms personally, but plans to do more in the coming weeks. The firms will be expected to

provide examples of their works for viewing. In addition, Sarah Ford was unable to attend tonight's meeting, but sent some materials for review - materials that highlight some of the work that Hartz construction has been involved with, with various architects - specifically on Catholic and a few churches of other denominations. Matt has the info on file and Br. Martin has a copy as well. We will begin to do more research on architects in the weeks after Fr. John Vaughn comes on staff and begins to attend our meetings.

Church Visits – This committee will continue their education by visiting churches that have been renovated recently, and/or have designs that could be a very basic source of inspiration. Being that many on this committee work during the day during the week, Saturdays are probably going to be our best day to do visits. We decided to start locally and consider a longer distance visit in the future if necessary.

Our first scheduled visit will be **Saturday, June 2, beginning at 12PM at Precious Blood church in Owensboro.** From there we will visit Blessed Mother church also in Owensboro at 1:30pm. There will be time for one more which is in the works at this writing.

Future Meeting Dates

It was decided to wait for Fr. John's arrival to set a new schedule for meeting dates.