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STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

A few members of the committee, accompanied by the architect, Michael Vivieros, recently met with the North Kingstown Planning Department to update the town on the St. Bernard project. The Planning Department has expressed an interest in this project from the beginning due to the central location of the property. The new church campus will be located at one of the main entrances to the village of Wickford and near a very busy intersection. The committee also reviewed the steps in obtaining permits and meeting all town requirements that will be necessary for a project this large.

The entire committee met with landscape architect, Donald Sharp to review the plans for the general layout of the site. Don is a local landscape architect who has worked on a number of local projects. To learn more about Don and to see some of the projects he has worked on, please visit his web site at <http://www.donsharp.com>.

The committee was very impressed with the first draft site plan which included the layout of the site, parking and location of the access road. Every effort was made to preserve the majestic old trees, the beautiful stone walls and even a few buildings on the property. The entrance to the church will be inspiring and handicapped accessible. The committee was especially pleased with the plans for the flow of traffic on the site and easy access to the parking lots with pedestrian sidewalks (nothing like the experience of crossing Route 1). Both the architect and the landscape architect have integrated the buildings and the layout with the farmland, incorporating the surroundings in the design. Remember this is only the first draft and there will be lots more tweaking of the plan, but certainly a great start.

Full Speed Ahead!

WHAT'S COMING UP?

Next week the committee will begin to draft the Request for Proposals, or RFP for short. Input from the architect, the landscape architect, the committee and the diocese will be compiled along with copies of the building and site plans. Once the RFP is completed, it will be forwarded to construction companies in the Rhode Island and Massachusetts area. The construction companies will then submit bids with an estimate on the price of the completed project. After reviewing the bids, the committee will then select a construction management company to oversee and construct the new parish campus, a huge next step!

Full Speed Ahead!

"Full Speed Ahead"

Steering Committee

Tom Orsi, Chair
Jane Allen
Francis Dwyer
Martha Dwyer
Arlene Gardiner
John Gibbons
Elizabeth McGrath
Walter Pannone
Raymond Vallee

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you especially for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and hold the promise for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight. Be present with us as we work together: make us responsive to your will and give to us a healthy pride in all we do that we may be good stewards of all things entrusted to us. May the prayers of our patron Bernard help us to keep in mind the wise counsel given long ago "whoever would climb to a lofty height must go by steps, not leaps."

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen