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STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT



Steering Committee

Tom Orsi, Chair
Jane Allen
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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

THIS WEEK

Whew! Glad that's over!

We met with the Parish Capital Evaluation Committee on Monday afternoon. As is often the case, Father Dennis handled most of the questions. Steering Committee members Tom Orsi, John Gibbons, Elizabeth McGrath and architect Michael Viveiros were there as backup! Despite being very hoarse from a bad cold, Father Dennis explained to the Evaluation Committee what we have done to date, where the property came from, and where we would like to go from here. Michael Viveiros brought several pictures of the property along with the schematic drawing of the current plan highlighting both the positive and negative characteristics of the site.

The Evaluation Committee is made up of several pastors and other lay Diocesan administrators. George Staples, Director of Facilities, Michael Sabatino, Chief Financial Officer, and Tony Gwiazdowski, Director of Development were all there. Having met with our parish Steering Committee on several occasions, these men were able to offer their insights on the project, a most welcome addition to the conversation!

Also attending the meeting were Dr. David Beaudoin, Secretary for Catholic Education and School Superintendent Br. William Dygert.

Many of the questions posed to us by the Committee related to our decision to forgo the building of a school at this time. Father Dennis and other Steering Committee members explained how difficult a decision that was and how the School Subcommittee had come to make such a recommendation. Most on the Evaluation Committee, especially the pastors, seemed to understand, particularly when the tuition rates were discussed!

The Evaluation Committee's decision on whether or not to let us move ahead with the project should be forthcoming shortly.

BIG THANKS

Tom Sandham has been at it again! Tom has volunteered his time and equipment to plow the farm fields up at the Davis property. We'll be planting corn and pumpkins soon. If the deer and woodchucks don't eat the corn, we may even be able to have a corn maze this fall!

Keeping these fields tilled and farmed as they were when the Davis family owned the land, helps to keep proper drainage and avoids erosion and overgrown vegetation that can cause all sorts of problems.

Thanks Tom!