

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

DAY OF PRAYERFUL REFLECTION & CONVERSATION EVALUATIONS JANUARY 23, 2010

I. THINGS I LIKED ABOUT OUR TIME TOGETHER

1. A chance to ask questions and have them answered
2. Respect and trust were grown
3. Positive attitude of the people. Standing scale was excellent – very informing
4. Learned about internal parish problems that are roadblocks to advancement. To a degree, this is, and will continue to be a roadblock.
5. More information to more people
6. To be honest, thought this day would be long. However, time was not an issue. I found myself growing in my faith and community. I learned, I listened and I grew towards a healing in my heart.
7. Discussing the future of our school
8. You have been very progressive and kept today moving along. Also everyone here was very congenial
9. Small group, short discussions. We got off of the subject too much with stories. Report on the interviews results. Opportunity to express thoughts about how parish moves forward.
10. Structured open discussion
11. Sharing of ideas and comments. Meeting all the dedicated parishioners. Encouraged.
12. Interesting conversation, learning experience
13. Opportunity to share ideas, great facilitation
14. Group activities; overview of the handouts; facilitators did a great job, kept us on task.
15. The openness and free expression. We accomplished much
16. Open sharing small group; directions / goals; on task time and task oriented. Because the group of healing and strengthening the healing has started.
17. Openness / cooperation of group. The Reid Group leadership / facilitation
18. Good community, good communication
19. Addressed the issues / opened minds
20. Great exchange of ideas and interaction. Getting a better idea of where we are going as a parish.
21. Learned more about the dedication and passions of parish members. The deserts were wonderful! Well prepared session and process. Thank you
22. Heard varying opinions on support of school / education facility
23. Well organized. Stayed on time
24. All of the brainstorming in groups of interest – very effective
25. Good format. Information helped to identify issues that needed to be addressed
26. Having the opportunity to cross pollinate
27. Hearing from fellow parish members
28. Good constructive sharing / discussion. Had the opportunity to get to know several new friends

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29. Good format and group discussion
30. The opportunity to engage each other
31. I was delayed so I really cannot comment, but I'm very glad to see the process advancing.

II. OUR TIME WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF...

1. I could have heard better, we could have followed the outline closer; the instructions could have been clearer
2. More people were here
3. The consultants talk less
4. We focused additional time on problem solving respecting parish problems. Can we stop hiding from it and start fixing it? At what point will we agree healing is sufficient such that school construction may start?
5. More research was done / performed on already performed studies. Several questions asked today have been studied with information available but extremely poorly communicated to parish; general community of Sheridan.
6. Taught some way to listen to others. The respect piece was nice but more information on how to listen to others is needed.
7. We could focus on smaller parts of this big project
8. Clearly, 12 – 13 is too many in a group to accomplish what was planned. Our group was healing
9. We had some solutions for difficult divisions – hurting
10. More people would have attended
11. We could see concrete progress towards resolving these issues
12. More had attended
13. More people from parish in attendance; healing needs to begin before any other discussion on building a new school
14. Shorter
15. More were present
16. More diversity of opinion – more invites to known dismayed parishioners.
17. Parish had completed survey; condensed into half day
18. Questions at 1:00 were too general for my brain. I didn't understand what info was wanted.
19. We would have spent time in the morning session working in groups; great ideas were expressed and time was too short
20. I think it might have been useful to practice some of the appreciative inquiry tools across opinions – conceptually I understand how to do it but could use some practice
21. Our time was well spent
22. Have more detailed specifics for our group's summary report
23. Each parishioner had read the book "Growing an Engaged Church" prior to our meeting

III. MY SUGGESTIONS FOR FOLLOW-UP OR NEXT STEPS ARE...

1. Summarize this meeting and print it and put it in the bulletin
2. Do something!

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3. Communication of the excitement about the future of Holy Name Parish
4. Retain professional assistance to heal the parish; state criteria by which a “go” or “no go” decision is made on a new school; develop a clear deadline by which the decision to build or close should be made.
5. “neighborhood” relationship building
6. Must get today’s conclusions; progress to the parish in no short order; it must get out!
7. Stay positive about every project. Keep everyone informed about what is going on. Keep the gossip mills quiet. Weekly update about what is going on in the bulletin. Create a Facebook account to allow the people to express their ideas and concerns. Open communication
8. Meet again
9. Not waiting long to reconvene with new ideas, etc.
10. Must get out the purpose / results of this meeting by next Sunday or people will be calling this a secret meeting. People naturally want to believe the worst. Report on suggestions to be carried forward from the meeting and what has been done / will be done and when. Info about how other parishes have dealt with attrition and turned it around.
11. Next consultant – land use planner
12. Solutions for negative feelings. After healing how and when to start “Capital Campaign”
13. More information about all aspects of our mission
14. Things need to move quickly
15. Hear back from each group; their program (the newsprint. What, who, by when. Accountability! Keep updated so we can share
16. Make sure we keep going
17. Small group follow up; ongoing open meetings with agendas
18. Think carefully about how to present (broaden the audiences) in March. All need to be included. Also consider presentation (or invitation) to parties with interest.
* Noreen’s idea: ask everyone to invite 2 people as their guest to presentation.
19. Don’t drop the ball. Please keep it moving forward
20. Communicate to the general parish community however possible.
21. Continue with a healing plan – yet undeveloped
22. I feel the parish needs to complete the survey – we need more #'s – 30 isn’t an accurate representation
23. Communicating as quickly as possible, with parishioners – beginning now!
24. Healing – identify those issues which might be festering – list those which can be addressed and consider a strategy.
25. Encourage communication between groups
26. Continued prayer for the parish to heal and come together. Healing services and masses for healing the parish. Rely on the power of the Spirit to heal and resolve disputes.
27. Keep the momentum going. Keep meeting and continue to focus

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IV. SOMETHING ELSE I WOULD LIKE TO SAY IS...

1. I feel it is imperative to keep all the parish informed. It is imperative to reach out to the people who have left and those that disagree. We need to build on the good points that the parish has.
2. Thanks to Tom and Noreen
3. "Git" after it!
4. There is too much fear. The implementation committee prepared a large, well-documented report on the school. This has never been made widely available. Question after question today was addressed in that report. Must the wheel be constantly re-invented?
5. The parish must act and keep momentum moving
6. Organization of meeting was great; very helpful; information valuable. Food was awesome.
7. Thank you
8. Job well done
9. We lined up to represent where we stood with respect to a new school, however, this group doesn't represent a cross section of the parish. In my view, there could have been more people toward the end of the line, not supporting "the school" – K-8 – as is perceived now and with the information available now. Also, I think tours of the school building are very inadequate.
10. Thank you
11. Go forward, don't give up
12. I enjoyed the day
13. Thank you
14. Thank you, we are on the right track
15. Time is wasting, move forward quickly. Jon's comment at his children attending HNS and how school is important. How to leverage for March presentation
16. Good process today
17. Though I adore Fr Ogg, as a pastor he has been a polarizing figure. This has been a hindrance towards healing for many parishioners.
18. I feel like we're doing some of the work that I expected the feasibility group to do. I hope the next meeting is more informative and thorough.
19. Demographics of group; where are the 20 – 30 year olds? The teens – at least 2 should have been here.
20. It would be great to create a prayer chain within this group to pray for concerns and roadblocks that arise. To pray for the Holy Spirit's intervention in parishioners' hearts, to obtain peace and unity once and for all!!
21. I think we need to put some shape to a program and conceptual numbers for a school
22. Thank you for facilitating conversation and taking the pulse of our parish community
23. Good way to spend a day on important things to help our parish
24. Following the finalization of the feasibility study and its presentation to the parish, re-hire The Reid Group to help us professionally in developing our vision, mission statement, etc. all parts of a strategic plan.