**Research Committee Meeting – March 12, 2011. Diocesan Archives.**

Attending: Tom Caswell, Chairman; Sr. Thomas Joseph McGoldrick, Louise Kennedy and Nick McAuliffe, members; Elizabeth Gessner, guest. Minutes were taken by Elizabeth Gessner.

Tom read the Committee Charge and discussed future plans.

One of the first initiatives will be the digital library. Tom has gotten space for Tolomato on the UF servers and we will use it as an on-line repository for our documents and research. It will be publicly accessible and searchable. Information in it may be picked up by Google and other search engines. We will also put a link on our website.

Information stored may include text, photographs, videos or anything else in digital format.

There was a discussion of copyright issues. While people may cite sources in papers they write while researching topics, they should avoid putting up whole texts or large sections thereof unless it is from a public source (i.e., something like a US census) or the material pre-dates 1923 (and is therefore considered to be in the public domain).

The chairman of the committee, Tom Caswell, will be the gatekeeper for material submitted to the on-line archive. He will decide upon its suitability and catalog and upload it.

Tom will send an announcement of policies to the board of directors and the docents, since these are the people most likely to submit documents or research.

We discussed the availability of church records. We need to find out the diocesan policy on the dates or required age of a record before it becomes accessible to the public.

Meeting frequency: The committee decided to meet once a month. The meetings will follow the docent meetings to be held on the 2nd Saturday of each month. We will be meeting at the Diocesan Archives.

The next meeting of the Research Committee is set for Saturday, April 9, 3:00 pm.