

ST. MATTHEW PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2007

Council Members Present: Fr. Steve Stradinger, Karen James, Blanche McQuitty, Sharon Tehan, Matt Knorr, Michael Kuick, Phill Unti, Cliff Shelton, Maria Schulner, Mike Hofmann, Micki Klappa-Sullivan, Judy Wargin.
Excused: Tom Marciniak, Fr. Bill Stanfield.

Formation: Begin Process for Strategic Planning and Vision for Parish

- All strategic objectives need to be aligned with the mission statement of the parish.
- The strategic plan must be a high-level perspective of the parish council, which will be communicated to the parish committees who will assist with carrying out the objectives.
- The following recommendations were made: 1) The council will utilize a strategic planning process that focuses on positive planning ideas; 2) a copy of the last strategic plan, completed in 2002, will be disseminated to all council members for review prior to the next council meeting in order to determine which goals have been completed and which need to be carried over; 3) all council members to review Chapter 12 – “Leading with Vision: Planning” from the Parish Council Manual prior to the next meeting.

Chairs Report:

- St. Matthew Fest will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2007. Traditionally, council members cook and serve the food at the fest. All council members to contact Tom Schneider with their availability to help that evening.

Pastor’s Report:

Fr. Steve

- Work on the John Paul II Center has begun. Cardinal Sritich is involved with this project.
- The Archdiocese of Milwaukee is working on the capital campaign. Each parish will need to roll out the campaign. 60% of the funds received through each parish campaign will stay within the parishes and 40% will go to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.
- Currently, there are 215 students enrolled in St. Matthew School. This is 30 less than what was budgeted for this year.
- St. Mary’s by the Lake Parish will be holding their annual parish picnic on Sunday, September 9, 2007 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. All council members are invited to attend.

Liaison Reports:

Prayer and Worship – J. Wargin

- Discussion took place regarding the role music has in the liturgy.
- “GOF - Generations of Faith” has been changed to “GIFT – Generations in Faith Together”. The theme this year is “We Believe”.
- The school children’s focus is “D.O.G. – Depend on God”. There will be a total of five events held this year. The first event will take place at the end of September/early October and will focus on “The Creed”.
- J. Wargin is looking into the possibility of replacing the funeral booklets currently used.

Southern Cross – C. Shelton

- The “Living Your Faith” event is scheduled for Monday, October 29, 2007 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Oak Creek Community Center. Archbishop Dolan will be the keynote speaker. Information will be published in the bulletin in the near future. The focus of this event is bringing inactive Catholics back to church.

Finance – M. Kuick

- Stewardship was \$40,000 below the anticipated budget level; however, reduced expenses offset this shortfall, therefore, the parish experienced a balanced budget.
- The school has 30 less students than originally budgeted for this year, which equates to \$2,000 per student.
- Home and School experienced a surplus, which, if approved, will be used to fund the salary of the computer teacher and assist with the purchase of a new dishwasher for the school kitchen.
- The water heater needed to be replaced over the summer. It was replaced with a gas-fired heater, which will save money on heating the water.
- Three proposals for a gym have been presented.

Meeting Minutes: The June meeting minutes were approved with the following changes noted:

1. Mike Hofmann’s name was misspelled.
2. The last sentence of the last bullet point under the Open to All section was changed to “The SMOC Men’s Spirituality group will fund the first set of bookmarks”.

Open to All:

Annual Parish Meeting

- The Annual Parish Meeting was scheduled to take place in March 2008; however, a recommendation from parish staff is to hold the meeting in conjunction with the October Parish Council meeting.
- An announcement about the date of this meeting will be published in “The Buzz” and in the bulletin.

Eucharistic Ministers

- M. Knorr encouraged the council members to consider becoming Eucharistic ministers in order to provide a back up role to our current group of ministers.
- Anyone interested in this ministry should contact Judy Wargin.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Blanche McQuitty
Parish Council Secretary