

ST. MATTHEW PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
September 24, 2007

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

Formation: Discussion RE: Current Strategic Goals of the Parish

- M. Knorr distributed a copy of the one-year plan of the Parish Council that was developed approximately 3-4 years ago.
- M. Kuick reviewed the process used during the last strategic planning process, which took place in 2000.
- Fr. Bill relayed information about the strategic planning process that will be rolled out within the Archdiocese of Milwaukee in the near future.
- After a lengthy discussion, the following common themes were raised by the council:
 - A focus needs to be placed on reviewing and improving the functionality of the parish committees.
 - An emphasis needs to be placed on engaging our parishioners so that they are more willing to become involved in committee work.
 - Communication amongst all areas of the parish needs to be enhanced (e.g. parish staff, school, committees, etc.).
 - An emphasis needs to be on growing the parish by promoting new membership through evangelization.

Next Steps:

- A recommendation was made to compare the mission statement of the parish to the current strategic goals.
- All council members to bring ideas for changes/enhancements to the current strategic goals to share at the next meeting.
- M. Knorr will email the goals of the APC to the council members.

Chairs Report:

- The combined parish council retreat (St. Matthew, St. Mary's by the Lake, St. Louis and St. Stephens) will be held on September 29th at Sacred Heart Monastery from 8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. N. Welte, from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee will be the facilitator of the retreat. The focus of the retreat will be "Living Our Faith – Love Beyond Belief".

Pastor's Report:

Fr. Steve

- An effort needs to be made to engage parishioners to become involved in serving the parish.

Fr. Bill

- More information about the planning initiative for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee will be communicated to the council members at the combined parish council retreat.
- The Welcome Home event will take place on Monday, October 29th at 6:30 p.m. at the Oak Creek Community Center. Fr. Bill asked for volunteers from the council to serve as facilitators for small group discussions at the event. The facilitator guide of the questions to be discussed was distributed to those who volunteered to be facilitators.
- October 27th is the Parish Council Leadership Day. The parish office will submit the registration for all council members who indicated they were available to attend.

Liaison Reports:

Evangelization – C. Shelton

- C. Shelton encouraged all council members to invite others to attend the Welcome Home event.
- N. Welte will be distributing information on how to invite people to this event in the near future.
- The publicity campaign for this event has begun through yard signs, as well as advertising on television and through Relevant Radio.

Respect Life – K. James

- A holy hour of prayer will be held at St. Mary's by the Lake parish on October 21st at 4:00 p.m.

Finance – M. Kuick

- The parish council will be receiving a revised budget in the near future, which will show the salaries of replacement teachers.

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

1. Fr. Bill should be noted as excused from the meeting.
2. Under Liaison Reports – Prayer and Worship - The third sentence of the second bullet should read: “The school children’s focus is “D.O.G.” – Depend on God”.
3. Under Liaison Reports – Finance – The first bullet should read: “Stewardship was \$40,000 below the anticipated budget level; however, reduced expenses offset this shortfall, therefore, the parish experienced a balanced budget”.

Open to All:

Annual Parish Meeting

- The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday, October 22nd before the Parish Council meeting. An announcement about the date of this meeting will be published in “The Buzz” and in the bulletin in the near future.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Blanche McQuitty
Parish Council Secretary