

ST. MATTHEW PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 22, 2008

Present: Fr. Pat O'Loughlin, Cliff Shelton, Blanche McQuitty, Matt Knorr, Marie Schulner, Karen Franckowiak, Sharon Tehan, Phil Unti, Mike Kuick, Jeff Menz, Mike Hofman and Dan Duchniak (Guest), number of other guests

Excused: Troy Fields

Question of the Week: Fr. Pat discussed and solicited comments.

Open to All/Guests: Dan Duchniak presented the "Gym Proposal" to the council. Discussion of the proposal ensued. Questions from the council were answered and comments were heard from other guests attending the meeting. Financial concerns including Phase II commitments (pay off Phase I and build church) were discussed. "Faith in Our Future" Archdiocesan campaign and the possible decrease in stewardship giving with multiple fund raising campaigns going on at the same time which would affect the Parish budget. Dan asked if a Reserve Fund for building of the gym could be established and receive monies from fund raisers such as the Auction, Home and School, etc. The following issues came to light:

- *Parish Council recognizes that having a gym would be an asset to the school and parish
- *Parishioners will need to be fully informed of all decisions
- *Debt from Phase I needs to be first priority of Phase II Building Campaign
- *Gym funds would need to come from outside the parish
- *Original Phase II proposal to archdiocese did not include gym
- *Two fund raising campaigns ("Faith in Our Future Archdiocesan campaign & Phase II) will need to be combined
- *Possibility that all funds would need to be on hand before building (parish will not borrow for gym)

No decisions was made or action taken on the gym proposal as more information/investigation is needed.

Fr. Pat will take three questions to the Arch-bishop:

- (A) Can the Gym Committee solicit funds from businesses and other sources outside the parish for transfer to a reserve fund whose purpose would be to build a gym?**
- (B) Can the Gym Committee request funds from Parish Fund Raising by groups such as the Home and School, Auction, Athletic Committee, etc. to be transferred to a reserve fund whose purpose would be to build a gym?**
- (C) What issues will be involved in selling naming rights to the gym based on directives from the archdiocese?**

Further action is on hold until more information is received from the Archdiocese on the "Faith in Our Future" Archdiocesan campaign, and direction from the Archbishop can be obtained. Parish Council will continue to investigate issues.

Pastor's Report:

Fr. Pat requested names and contact information on all sub-committees and asked that all approved minutes of separate committees be e-mailed to the website address: minutes@stmattoc.org where they will be properly disseminated and to Darlene Vodvarka in the parish office at: dvodvarka@stmattoc.org so that a copy can be made and posted.

Liaison format to keep PC informed that was suggested/provided should be reviewed for modification and discussion at next meeting.

Liaison Reports:

Prayer & Worship – S. Tehan provided minutes of the last meeting. She brought to council's attention the suggestion from the committee that perhaps videos can be taken of hospitality and liturgy/music to be placed on the parish website as a means of enhancement.

Southern Cross – Evangelization was a topic of discussion. Council was made aware that St. James Parish has Tuesday, Wednesday and every other Friday daily mass, which concludes with a group discussion in the church. St. Stephen's Parish will have a retreat for women on Oct. 24 & 25, 2008 and another for men on February 6, 7 and 8, 2009.

Christian Formation - No meeting was held.

ASCB – J. Menz attended the Finance Committee meeting and found that the committee is working hard but financial information is complicated. He would like to see a simplified format to provide need information to Parish Council. AD HOC committee was formed to work on this format. The committee includes: Cliff Shelton, Troy Fields, Phil Unti and Jeff Menz.

New Business:

- (1) Discuss of Financial Reports – See ASCB liaison report.
- (2) Christian Formation By-Laws – rescheduled for later discussion/approval

Old Business:

- (1) Defibrillators – Auction Committee is in the process of purchasing two (2) defibrillators with both child and adult pads. Training is being looked at.
- (2) Follow Up on Parish Directory – Three disclosures were published in the church bulletin asking parishioners to contact the parish office if they did not want their name or phone numbers listed. It was felt that this was an appropriate attempt to obtain parishioner approval.
- (3) Gym Proposal was tabled for further information/investigation. See "Open to All". The subject of "Grant Money" is an option for fund raising outside the parish. Give thought to this issue.

Prayer Log: Phil Unti explained that the Prayer Log is used for requests for prayers for specific groups of individuals, issues or discernment of paths to take. It also would follow when and how these prayers were answered. A written record would be kept.

Closing Prayer was provided by S. Tehan.

