

ST. MATTHEW PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES – February 23, 2009

Parish Mission – *“We follow Jesus as a welcoming Catholic community of believers, fostering a life of active prayer and worship, sharing God’s word through education and action and reaching out in service to those in need.”*

Present: Mike Kuick, Blanche McQuitty, Matt Knorr, Cliff Shelton, Fr. Pat O’Loughlin, Phil Unti, Karen Franckowiak, Troy Fields, Michael Hoffmann

Excused: Jeff Menz, Sharon Tehan, Maria Schulner

Reflection: B. McQuitty

Minutes: Minutes of 1-26-08 Parish Council meeting were approved as modified.

Open to All: St. Stephens Parish buildings and land were sold for \$3M. The ultimate cost of relocation is expected to be \$8.1M at completion of Master Plan. St. Stephens hopes to have the church completed by Thanksgiving 2009 in its new location. The “family center” would be part of phase II

Security issues for St. Matthews building and grounds were discussed. The parish is looking to put security camera on entrances to the buildings and grounds. PC was asked to give thought to a protocol for locking the buildings especially for early school dismissals, extended care (after school hours) and evening meetings. This issue will be followed up at March meeting.

Liaison Reports:

- (1) **Christian Formation (CFC)** – CFC discussed the possibility of using Lighthouse Media for the religious education programs. Pros and cons were put forth. No decision was made.

CFC budget was given a final review by P. Unti and was returned to CFC for motion to recommend.

St. Matthews purchases a whole set of workbooks for Religious Formation. Some cost is born by students and if workbooks are returned in good condition there is a rebate. Religious Formation will ask students to use separate paper to answer questions rather than write in the workbooks themselves.

GIFT – is looking to recruit additional volunteers. They have determined to scale back from six (6) sessions to four (4) this year.

2009 Mission Trip – The trip is scheduled for July 18-25 to Birmingham, AL. Shelly is looking for additional chaperones for the mission trip, especially male. The Parish

subsidizes the travel costs of chaperones. If there are not enough volunteer chaperones, some students will not be able to participate.

- (2) **Prayer & Worship** – In preparation for the Parish Town Hall Meeting on March 14th, the focus of the entire meeting was a discussion of accomplishments for 2008 for the committee and goals/challenges for 2009-2010.

Prayer & Worship feels that there is a lack of communication with Parish Council and at the Town Hall Meeting look forward to hearing the council's accomplishments and goals/challenges in the coming year.

- (3) **Southern Cross** – This committee did not meet.

- (4) **ASCB**

Finance – Focus of the meeting was a review of next year's budget (may require a deficit budget). After review and discussion, it was decided that Fr. Pat, Mike Kuick, Tom Schneider and Janice O'Connor would meet to eliminate items. A revised budget would be forwarded to all committee members for review and approval in March.

- (5) **Social Ministry** - The "Hunger Meal" is scheduled for Sunday, March 8th from 10:30 to noon. This function is part of families in faith.

- (6) **Stewardship** – Hospitality weekend has been moved to March 14/15 (new members will be welcomed at 9:30 mass); youth Confirmation students will host.

"Old Member Social"/"Seasoned Member Social" is scheduled for March 28th and invitations were sent out to 75 households. Additional planning is ongoing.

Chairperson's Report

Cliff Shelton discussed upcoming Parish Town Hall Meeting including Parish Council accomplishments and goals/challenges in the coming year. Cliff will provide parish council report. Main focus will be on people not buildings. B. McQuitty is organizing the Town Hall Meeting scheduled for Saturday, March 14th from 8:00AM until noon. All parishioners are invited. Invitation will be placed in the bulletin.

Pastor's Report

Approval of a partial budget by Parish Council in April was determined to be appropriate. Teacher and Tuition contracts are at issue. Council will be provided with sufficient information to vote on budget. Submitting an unbalanced budget is a possibility. Finance Committee will meet next on March 3rd to consider revised budget.

Discussion that focused on possible review of the parish's "Master Plan". Consensus vote (none opposed) was taken to draft a formal request to reconvene the Building committee, identifying specific issues to be reviewed and/or considered. Additional parishioners may be added to the committee, as membership has been diminished over time.

FIOF Update – The "Parish Fact Sheet" was completed on February 23rd. Next meeting with Erbi Cox for leadership member of FIOF is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24th.

Old Business

- (1) Meetings with Finance Committee continue discussions on the best method of providing Parish Council with appropriate financial information. One thought discussed was having Tom Schneider address a PC meeting to explain how to read parish financial reports. One issue was pro-rated costs.
- (2) **Parish Council Nomination Update** - The following individuals will be replaced on the Parish Council: Phil Unti (1 year term), Blanche McQuitty (3 year term), Sharon Tehan (3 year term), Matt Knorr (3 year term) and Mike Hoffmann as Trustee (2 year term. Nominations are now complete and will be provided to Darlene Vodvarka in the parish office to assure that criteria for election is met and individuals are willing to be part of the process. In March, final nominees will review the Archdiocese Manual and attend a class provided by the Archdiocese for Parish Council members.
- (3) **District 15 All Parish Council Meeting** – Blanche McQuitty will attend this meeting scheduled for March 12th.

Prayer Log

Three items were added to the “Prayer Log”: (A) Support to priests struggling with health and other personal problems; (B) prayer for success for Archbishop Dolan as takes on additional responsibilities in his new role; and (C) prayer for selection process that will determine new bishop of Milwaukee.

Closing Prayer: T. Fields