

ST. MATTHEW PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES – January 31, 2011

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: Blanche McQuitty, Chris Adams, Troy Fields, Cliff Shelton, Larissa Knorr, Mike Hofmann, Mike Kuick, Fr. Pat, Karen Franckowiak, Alan Bronikowski

EXCUSED: Steve Anderson

REFLECTION/OPENING PRAYER Chris Adams

MINUTES: Blanche McQuitty moved to approve minutes of the 1-3-11 PC meeting and Troy Fields seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Constitution BOE - Chris Adams requested that discussion of the changes to the Constitution of BOE be put on the February agenda. He will send a copy of the Constitution to Parish Council members for their review prior to the next meeting. The bigger changes are the name change from the Board of Education to School Advisory Committee and membership. Finance Committee has some concerns on reference to how money reserves will be handled.

Cemetery Guidelines – A copy of the cemetery guidelines was provided in advance of the meeting to Parish Council members. The guidelines are very straight forward and follow those provided by the Archdiocese. There was a discussion on how gravesite owners would be provided with the guidelines. Possibilities include: (1) printed in the bulletin, (2) put on the St. Matthew’s website, and (3) posting them on a sign in the cemetery. Karen Franckowiak made a motion to approve the guidelines and the motion was seconded by Cliff Shelton. The motion was passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Discernment of Parish Council Members 2011-2012 – Alan Bronikowski indicated that there will be a blurb in the bulletin asking parishioners to prayerfully consider nominating themselves or other member of the parish to fill the three (3 year) vacancies on the Parish Council and Parish Trustee. Nomination weekend will be February 19-20. Nomination sheets will be provided at the end of each pew and collection boxes provided at the exits. Further discussion regarding ways to interest new and/or existing parishioners to become involved in the council took place. Parish Council orientation meeting will be scheduled for sometime in early March.

LIAISON REPORTS:

- (1) **Christian Formation Committee (CFC)** – Nothing to report.
- (2) **Prayer & Worship** - Did not meet. Committee will meet in February.
- (3) **Southern Cross** – Meets this coming Saturday at 9:00AM.
- (4) **Social Ministry** – N/A.

- (5) **Parish Life** – Ministry Fair is scheduled for March 12-13 after masses. It will be low profile.
- (6) **ASCB – Building & Grounds** – The security system is working well but the schedules still need some “tweaking” when people are really in the building. FIOF work is planned to take place over the Easter break. The rental property will be vacant in June and some repairs will be needed. The renter has received a job transfer. Discussion regarding repairs to the rectory took place. The roof is 30 years old and the boiler is getting older. Option for usage should be considered in the long term. There also was a discussion regarding the teacher’s lounge and ‘gift’ office. The parking lot at the school entrance (bus entrance) will need some repair soon and should be put in the budget. It is becoming a safety concern for students. An estimate is being obtained.
- (7) **ASCB – Finance** – The parish budget is due by February 4th. Kris Wegner will summarize and will provide it to the Finance Committee. Stewardship is up 2.8%. Finance will come back to Parish Council with budget next month. There remains an \$18,000 shortage in the previous school budget. Action needs to be taken to request funds from Home & School committee or look at cutting disbursements.
- (8) **Board of Education** – Discussion regarding other Catholic schools in the area took place. Question came up as to whether it would be feasible to bus students from the Racine area.

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

The Archdiocese District 15 meeting took place January 12th. Items of interest from that meeting include: (1) they do not expect significant changes by Listecky (following Dolan’s plan), (2) There is a Parish Director with a part time priest at St. James Parish, and (3) only two parishes met target for FIOF. St. Matt’s was under 50% of target goal.

Strategic Planning discussion will be on the February agenda for the council. Parish Council members should be sure to send their comments on Strategic Goals to Blanche by February 4th.

PASTOR’S REPORT

Catholic Stewardship – Archbishop Listecky will be speaking to the parish regarding Catholic Stewardship the last weekend in February.

Notable News from District 15 Priests’ Meeting – January 28

St. John Kanty, St. Alexander, and St. Helen will be suppressed on June 30, 2011 and a single parish with a new name will emerge. The three sites will continue to be used.

As of July 1, 2011, Immaculate Conception will share a priest with St. Augustine (Milwaukee) ; St. Veronica will share a priest with St. Paul (St. Francis); and Nativity of the Lord will share a priest with Sacred Heart (Milwaukee). Currently a single youth minister and child minister are shared among the six parishes with success.

Divine Mercy continues to own four sites but is trying to get down to two (St. John, St. Sylvester). The combined parishes have about 3,375 units and 120-125 funerals per year are celebrated. The sale of St. Adalbert’s has fallen through.

St. James no longer plans to relocate. The parish has an interesting cultural mix with a substantial Asian population. Construction along 27th street promises to be a long-term inconvenience.

CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS:

By Law Changes for BOE

Strategic Planning

Parish Council Discernment

CLOSING PRAYER-

Troy Fields