

ST. MATTHEW PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES – February 22, 2010

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: Fr. Pat, Karen Franckowiak, Jeff Menz, Larissa Knorr, Cliff Shelton, Mike Kuick, Alan Bronikowski, Chris Adams, Blanche McQuitty, Laurie Stodola, Mike Hoffmann, Troy Fields

Excused: N/A

Reflection/Opening Prayer: M. Kuick

Minutes: Alan Bronikowski moved to approve minutes with correction of 1/25/10 PC meeting and Jeff Menz seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Old Business

Parish Council Nomination Process/Mini-Retreat – Blanche McQuitty

Mini-retreat to assist in orientation process for Parish Council election of new council members has been scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2010. This mini-retreat will allow current council members to meet and get to know nominees in a social setting, as well as provide information to nominees. All current parish council member should attend, if possible. Nominees will be invited and lunch will be served. Those nominees not able to attend retreat will need to attend an orientation meeting preceding the March 22nd Parish Council meeting.

The discernment process was discussed. Discernment in the Catholic tradition and its implications for our process was defined and clarified. Several methods of approaching the discernment process as it pertains to Parish Council elections were outlined. Troy Fields, Chris Adams and Blanche McQuitty were asked to put the current PC election process on paper.

Liaison Reports:

- (1) **Christian Formation Committee (CFC)** – No meeting
- (2) **Prayer & Worship** – P&W committee did not like the PC town hall meeting format and felt that it was a wasted day because no parishioners, other than committee members, attended. They would like to go back to reporting to the Parish Council at a PC meeting as has been done in the past. This committee feels that it is too early to tell if there will be much of an impact from St. Stephen’s move to Oak Creek.

Judy Wargin told committee that PAW budget is very tight again this year and she is watching what is being spent and looking for ways to cut costs.

- (3) **Southern Cross** – Major points of discussion involved the “Catholics Returning Home “ program being sponsored by Southern Cross. It will be held at St. Stephens parish and items covered were costs, publicity, possible speakers for the different topics, leaders and team members, and handouts to be provided for participants..

Committee decided to purchase 100 yard signs for \$315 and 50 wires for \$35 (\$0.70 each). Three different informative brochures for participants will be purchased at the cost of \$15 for 50 copies. Journall/Sentinel and Catholic Herald articles will be run/posted and relevant radio (free publicity) will be used. Each parish will make bulletin inserts to be handed out to invite Catholics to come back. Each parish in District 15 will be informed that this program will be available. With receipt of \$150 from St. Roman and St. Charles parishes and less expenditure noted, there remains \$580 in the Evangelization Southern Cross fund.

- (4) **Social Ministry** - No report.
- (5) **Stewardship** – The Stewardship Committee has two new members – Rick and Debbie Kopaczewski. They were from Divine Mercy and are new to the parish. The seasoned member social was discussed. It is scheduled for March 20th. A handout was provided promoting the Adult Enrichment Program.
- (6) **ASCB – Building & Grounds** – The new electrical power cutover was completed by WE Energies on February 15th and the south wing improvements were completed on February 9th. Everything is wrapping up for the boiler work and committee is waiting for the bills to figure the final cost. The committee is now looking at what it would cost to remove the second boiler. A sub-committee has been set up to review the bids for the Security System and come up with a proposal. The FIOF work in the lower level is scheduled for the week after Easter when school will not be in session. Committee is looking to school parents to assist. The Eagle Scout project of Sean Marshall (project is a swale design for the south end of the parking lot) was given tentative approval. More detailed plans are needed before final approval is given. Toilet flush valves in the school building are starting to breakdown. Committee is getting estimates and will put together a proposal in the near future.
- (7) **ASCB – Finance** January Financials show that financial stewardship is 55.3% of budget at 58.3% of year. We are \$20,657 behind budget. Faith in Our Future had a gain of \$6,025 for month of January making the total available \$44,375. The parish is still looking for new tenants for the rental property and the Phase II Building campaign gained \$3,170 for the month, \$133,841 is still needed to replenish reserves.

Finance committee reviewed preliminary budget proposal. The proposal reduced Stewardship Income by only .94% even though we are 3% behind budget for the year. Finance Committee is awaiting clarification on salaries from Personnel committee which may help offset some of the difference. The budget also contains \$7,000 in the contingency fund which would be another method that could be used for drop in stewardship. Tom Schneider updated committee on overdue tuition. Currently we have 24 families late with tuition to a total of \$31,752. Of that amount \$12,700 has been determined as hardship as the families have contacted the parish. Father Pat has sent out letters to the remaining families to scheduled meetings.

Chairperson's Report

Cliff requested that committee liaisons go back to their committees to get a feel for how they are approaching community building at their level.

Fr. Pat's Report

Father wanted to clarify that in 2009 the Parish did meet it's goal for the Catholic Stewardship Appeal.

Monies returned to the parish from Faith in Our Future (FIOF) totals \$44,375 which in addition to allowing the parish to upgrade the ceiling/lighting in the lower level of the school building, has provided \$5,000 to Religious Education in the Parish, \$9,000 toward the St. Matthew's school endowment and a donation of \$10,000 to the St. Vincent De Paul Society.

Closing Prayer – A. Bronikowski