

MEETING MINUTES
ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, 2/23/10
RECTORY – LOWER LEVEL – 7:30 PM

ATTENDANCE

	P	A		P	A		P	A
Pastor			Business Manager			Vira Schmidt, 3 rd yr	X	
Fr. Gerry Reinersman	X		Lee Kessen	X		Joe Butts, 2 nd yr	X	
Associate Pastor			Board of Ed President			Missy Hickman, 2 nd yr	X	
Fr. Josh Lange		X	Jay Rottinghaus	X		Daryl Orth, 2 nd yr		X
Director of Religious Education			Council Members			Christine Whelan, 2 nd yr	X	
Sr. Julaine Middendorf	X		Amy Hatfield – President, 3 rd yr	X		Raymond Donnelly, 1 st yr	X	
Deacon			Chuck Pettit – Vice President, 3 rd yr	X		Beth Halderman, 1 st yr	X	
Tim Schabell		X	Susan Bradtmueller–Secretary, 2 nd yr	X		D. Michael Moloney, 1 st yr	X	
Principal			Chris Ampfer, 3 rd yr	X		Garren Parker, 1 st yr		X
Melissa Holzmacher	X		Jeanne Pettit, 3 rd yr	X		Joan Zai, 1 st yr	X	

P=Present and A=Absent

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

Moved by: Chris Ampfer

Seconded by: Jeanne Pettit

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PARISH REPORTS

PASTOR’S REPORT - Fr. Reinersman

I Capital Campaign

- Providing we obtain the Bishop’s approval, we’re “on track” for renovations to school in spring and work on the church in the summer/fall
 - Matching gift opportunity seems to have been received well / phone-a-thon has had good progress.
 - Weddings have been suspended here August – mid-November.
 - We’ll need a lot of help and understanding with logistics of where Mass is held.
 - We have to begin planning a “thank you” event.
 - Steering Committee and P D M committee have been invaluable to this process.
 - GROW Fund has been used for start-up costs (architectural fees, campaign expenses); will have to be refunded from Cap Camp funds for ongoing building & facilities improvements.

II Next Year’s Budget

- Looking like deficit budget unless we find cost savings.
- Lee Kessen will explain.

III Stewardship

- Jim Pelgen, Jimmy Jones and Levi Riley did spectacular job keeping the sidewalks, etc. clear during snow storms.

IV 4021 Alexandria Pike

- We are in negotiations to lease it to Catholic Newman Center of NKU.
- We are extremely pleased with this possibility.

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- This option fits well with Parish Revitalization Plans.

V FAITH ENRICHMENT

- Theology of the Body 7:00 PM, Wednesdays of Lent Feb 24 – March 17
- Women's CRHP weekend March 20-21
- Men's CRHP weekend April 24 – 25

VI PRAYER

- A. Day of Prayer for Priests, Thursday, March 4
 - Church will be open for prayer all day.
 - St. Joseph is host church for Holy Hour at 7:00 – 8:00 PM
 - Similar to day of Prayer for Life, which was very well received.
- B. Stations of the Cross followed by Confessions on Fridays of Lent.
- C. Getting very busy planning for Holy Week and Easter.

VI DPAA

- | | | |
|---------------|------|-------------|
| Diocesan Goal | 2010 | Parish Goal |
| \$2,200,000 | | \$118,400 |
| \$2,149,000 | 2009 | \$115,800 |
- Bishop Foys agreed to suspend our participation in Parish Offertory Program in consideration of our capital campaign. We will have to resume it in 2011.
- Received our first (only?) rebate for 2009

VII Upcoming Celebrations

- Nick Rottman's ordination to diaconate Sat., March 27 10:00 AM Cathedral
- Deacon Ian McDole's ordination to priesthood Sat., June 19 10:00 AM Cathedral
- Father McDole's first Mass and reception Sat., June 19 7:00 PM St. Joseph
- 50th Anniversary of first Mass in Church December 17, 2010
 - Open to your ideas as to when and how to celebrate this

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Melissa Holzmacher

- Grades 5 and 8 will be given the ACRE (Assessment of Catechesis Religious Education) on February 25-26, 2010.
- Everybody Counts will be the week of March 1, 2010. Helen Bailey coordinates the week. Each grade level learns about different types of disabilities or illnesses.
- Our Lenten theme is "I am the vine, you are the branches." You'll see this theme as you enter the main school building. The students wrote Lenten practices on grapes, and these grapes are hanging off of vines in the hallway. We are also collecting items for a Parish Kitchen meal.
- Fine Arts Day will be March 14, 2010. Artwork will be displayed from all students. Grades 3, 4, and 6 will perform in Memorial Hall during the Fine Arts Day open house.
- The Diocesan Competition will take place on Tuesday, March 16. We will have 7th and 8th graders participating in Oratory, Storytelling, Religion, Science, Social Studies and Art competitions.
- We'll be participating in the Healthy Challenge during the week of March 22, 2010. Mrs. Bailey also coordinates this program: students are encouraged to eat five servings of fruits and vegetables each day of the week.
- The 8th grade class play is Fa Mulan. Tickets will go on sale in March. The dress rehearsal is March 26, followed by performances on Saturday, March 27, and Sunday, March 28.
- The 5th grade gave parish council a card and gifts of candies.
- Officer Hyatt's presentation on February 23, 2010, on the dangers of prescription drugs was very good. We will try to get information out earlier on this program in upcoming years.

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DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REPORT - Sr. Julaine

- Little Rock bible study started on February 22. There will be a total of six sessions, ending the week of Holy Week. Fifteen parishioners are registered for participation in the program.
- Theology of the Body program starts on February 24, 2010. This presentation is 1-1/2 hours long. The parish will provide baby-sitting and refreshments for those wishing to attend.
- The First Communion parent meeting will be on Tuesday, March 9, 2010.
- PSR students will have confessions on March 7 and March 14, 2010.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT - Lee Kessen

- Negotiating with NKU Newman Center for the Steffen property (4021 Alexandria Pike). Renovations would be needed to accommodate them (or any other tenant). We are still negotiating the rent. They are looking also at other properties. This would be win/win for the parish and for the Newman Center. Finance Committee has recommended a four-year lease to fit the mortgage structure.
- We need to address possible deficit of \$200,000. Enrollment of school is down. We are looking at various cost-saving measures. WE are hoping by March/April to have balanced budget proposal for parish council.
- There will be a small meeting on February 27, 2010 to see how Capital Campaign improvements will work – i.e., - logistics.
- Mailing of financial statements for end of tax year to parishioners went well.
- Mailing for Capital Campaign "matching program" was completed by a service. This was part of the fixed campaign costs. Only 6 mailings missed their destination.
- Parish pictorial directory is almost finished. We need to decide when it will be circulated.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT – Jay Rottinghaus

- We had 27 families attend the school's Open House. Nineteen of these are registered at the school. We are calling the other 8 families.
- The breakdown of new family registrations for next year so far: 7 first graders, 1 third grader, and 1 sixth grader.
- Forty-three kindergartners have registered for 1st grade next year.
- We're moving to a new testing program – replacing the Terra Nova program with the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. These tests provide more detailed information reports back to the school.
- A survey of interest in after-school child care will be circulated to parents.
- Three people on the Board of Education have terms that expire this spring.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE REPORT (Missy Hickman, Jeanne Pettit, Joe Butts)

The Finance Committee assists the pastor and Parish Council in planning, providing, and supervising the parish financial resources for the current and future needs by utilizing solid and effective financial planning.

- Delinquency rates on tuition are higher than normal: 1% over the usual for this time of year.
- We are setting up a subcommittee of the Finance Committee and the Board of Education to look at tuition issues and variables.

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & MAINTENANCE REPORT (C. Pettit*, C. Ampfer, D. Orth, C. Whelan, G. Parker)

The Maintenance, Planning & Development Committee assists the pastor in developing, planning, and communicating the long term strategic plans of the parish to meet the present and future needs of its parishioners while effectively utilizing its resources to enhance and maintain the parish plant and facilities.

- Meeting for PDM Committee on 2/27 cancelled in lieu of meeting with architect and general contractor.
- Next meeting of PDM will be week before next parish council.

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- PDM needs to start meeting to get back to "regular" maintenance/GROW-type projects now that Capital Campaign planning/work is well underway.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS REPORT (Amy Hatfield, Ray Donnelly)

The Public Relations & Communications Committee promotes and develops the Parish Family Concept through the celebration of special events and activities that offer opportunities for spiritual growth, and keeps the parish informed utilizing available technology (website & emails).

- No plans for Doughnut Sunday in March because of Pancake Breakfast during that month (with Easter Bunny).
- Transition of the naming of "Doughnut Sunday" to "Fellowship Sunday" is underway.

SOCIAL ACTION & OUTREACH REPORT (Susan Bradtmueller*, Vira Schmidt, Chris Ampfer, Beth Halderman)

The Social Action and Outreach committee fosters a climate of openness and inclusion among the members of our parish (especially those that do not have children or extended families within the parish), reaches out to those in material and spiritual need, and increases awareness of the available support services.

- Interfaith Hospitality Network welcomed three families (7 children, 5 adults) during the week of February 13 through February 21. Although we lost a few days to the snowstorm (the guests stayed at a hotel in Newport to avoid the treacherous travel), the remainder of the week went well. We were told St. Joseph was the nicest church they'd been to so far, and they rated us a "12" on a scale of 1 to 10! Highlights of the week were the complimentary haircuts, the attendance at the drama club presentation, the free night/dinner out at SkyLine Chili in Alexandria (special thanks to Joan Zai!), and the special crafts/events for the children. We continue to have a healthy rotation of volunteers, led by our tireless Helen Bailey. IHN has provided another avenue for families to become closer-knit in the parish community and to teach multiple generations the value of service, respect and love for others. The next rotation starts May 2, 2010.

- IHN current needs: rocking chair, griddle.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT (Deacon Tim, Mike Moloney)

The Stewardship Committee organizes the Time, Talent, and Treasures of our parish and appropriates them accordingly.

- The subcommittee met on Thursday, February 18, 2010, with the following outcomes/next steps:

- Bulletin articles will be circulated in March inviting parishioners to join committee – Tim
- Stewardship "quick notes" for bulletins (starting April) – Tim
- Organization "spotlight" article (4th weekend of each month) – Mike
 1. Tell us about yourself
 2. Primary mission of organization/committee
 3. Where and when do you meet
 4. How is your mission carried out
 5. Highlight accomplishments
- Reasons to get involved with Stewardship (March) - Mike
 1. Capital campaign updates
 2. Bulletin/Carpenter's Connection articles
 3. Spotlight upcoming events

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LITURGY & WORSHIP REPORT (Jeanne Pettit, Joan Zai)

The Liturgy & Worship Committee enhances and encourages full participation in a prayerful liturgical experience for the assembly while fostering the ongoing conversion and spirit of evangelization in the parish.

- The Liturgy and Worship Committee discussed plans for Lent. They are planning to rotate Stations during Lent – all weeks are filled, so that's good.
- Procession route for Holy Thursday will change slightly to be less bumpy. Route will proceed up to the school and then head down the sidewalk to the convent.
- Connie Lauer gets married May 8, 2010.
- Vicki Klocke is working on getting 1st year Familia group to organize Seder Meal. We also need a school family to be on the stage. A PSR family will bring up the offertory gifts at Mass.

YOUTH & FAMILY REPORT (Vira Schmidt*, Amy Hatfield, Christine Whelan)

The Youth & Family Committee welcomes families (particularly those with young children) to participate in fellowship opportunities they provide.

- Hearts for Haiti will be on Thursday, March 4, from 5:30-7:30 pm. The originally planned event was cancelled due to snow storm.

NEW BUSINESS

- We reviewed the Diocesan Annual Plan for 2010-2011, led by Joan Zai. This plan originally stemmed from the 2006 Synod process. These are recommendations for this year to work on that plan, bringing it to fruition. We affirmed all recommendations.

OLD BUSINESS

- There was a blurb in the bulletin about the offertory gifts. There have been more rotations of families asking about and presenting the offertory gifts.
- We are working on the recruitment flyers for Parish Council and the Board of Education.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by: Christine Whelan Seconded by: Vira Schmidt

NEXT MEETING: Regular meeting: Tuesday, March 23, 2010