

## **Parish Council Minutes    November 20, 2011**

**Members present:** Kate Bycroft, Martha Marcotte, Ken Stonebreaker, Dan Sellers, Dave Stueve, Jeff Ostmeyer, Mary Ellen Muninger, Cindy Snavely, Brian Ring, Brandon Ebert and Sister Rose

Sister opened the meeting with a prayer.

Before proceeding with the agenda, 2 guests from St. Elizabeth's Ladies Group, Kathy Bradley and Debbie Brenneman, addressed the council to clarify the leadership regarding the Parish Fall Festival. There is a core group within the Ladies Group who have been instrumental in organizing the Festival for several years. The work involved requires year round regularly scheduled meetings and they are willing to continue in this capacity. The Parish Life chairman on Parish Council will serve as a liaison between the two groups sharing necessary communication.

President Jeff Ostmeyer asked for additions to the agenda. None were noted. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the September council meeting.

### **Finance Board**

Brandon noted that expenses were down in the last finance report. Sister Rose said the mild weather contributed to lower utility bills and as always, there is an effort to save whenever possible.

An insert in the bulletin addressed the annual holiday fund drive. This year the parish needs to pay off it's cemetery debt and the contributions will be geared to eliminating the current \$24,000 debt regarding All Saints Cemetery. There is the possibility of an additional \$12,000 expense currently being considered by the diocese.

### **Commission Reports**

#### **Parish Life/Family Life**

The welcome breakfast was well attended and council members were thanked for their participation. Sister Rose shared that the breakfast is a better option than trying to visit individual families in their homes considering everyone's hectic lifestyle. It was noted that the parish is currently at 400 families.

## **Other items**

There was a wonderful insert in this week's bulletin giving details about the now active website. Cancellations, ministries lists, parish council minutes, and a pod cast of Fr. Coady's homily are just a few of the items which can be found on the website. Sister Rose and Lucinda have worked hard to come up with 80 potential contracts for advertising. Parish Council was reminded that any money earned from advertising will go to the website developers as per our agreement.

## **SOH**

A list of 4 questions was given to the Council members and a discussion followed about how our parish has responded to the directives regarding SOH. It is still a concern that confusion exists between the definition of Stewards of Hope and Stewardship. The retreat in Victoria was very beneficial for those able to attend and an upcoming Prayer Retreat at St. Elizabeth's on December 11th from 1-4 should be a day of prayer and reflection for the entire parish and community. Kate Bycroft and Sister Rose will summarize key points from the discussion and will report our thoughts back to the Diocese.

There will not be a December meeting. Next meeting will be Sunday, January 15th.

Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Cindy S Snavely