

Parish Council Meeting July 2, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Diane Nekvinda (Welcoming), Jan Feterl (Social Ministries & Stewardship), Darryl Dubs (Liturgy/Art/Environment), Carol Deering (Communications), Joe French & Brian Berg (Building & Grounds), Laurie Christensen (Parish Activities), Mary Jo Gallagher (Youth Rep), Chad Schulte (guest from Knights of Columbus), Fr. Tschakert, Tonia Honner

Opened with prayer

Committee Reports:

Building & Grounds:

- Joe French introduced Brian Berg as the new representative for Building & Grounds Committee. Joe will finish overseeing the building addition project. The building addition will hopefully be finished by the end of July. We are waiting on a French drain to be installed to draw water away from the building so the air handlers can be installed. Electricians will finish up once air handlers are in with the wiring.
- Room 203 (just beyond the gray doors that separate the church and school) in the original part of the school will be the new Conference Room. An 80" TV has been installed.

Liturgy/Art/Environment:

- Stained Glass Windows-6 windows on the east side of the Nave have been purchased. The windows will be installed later this year.
- Darryl shared with Diane the wording for above the entryway is available for the Welcoming Committee to review and make any necessary changes before it's ordered.
- Gathering Space update: A designer presented her ideas to the Liturgy Committee on how to update the Gathering Space. The committee made some suggestions and she will take those ideas back and come up with the changes in the near future. The main idea is to have an information center along with new tables and chairs and a flat screen TV to display information. They would also like to see some paint color changes along with the table outside the Parish Office to change. The committee is interested in having volunteers build the cabinets to save on cost. Darryl made it clear there is no money currently allocated to this project. Fr. Tschakert mentioned that a new larger table is being constructed by a couple parishioners for the items that sit on the table in the middle of the Gathering Space. This table will also be used by bridal parties for their cards/programs/guestbook.

Faith Formation:

- No meeting was held in June, so no report was given.

Welcoming:

- The committee had the Welcoming Table set up the last weekend in June and had a few people stop by. This has worked very well since not everyone likes a home visit and some people feel more comfortable stopping by to get their welcoming gifts or information on how to register.

- The committee would like to find a prayer intention book (similar to the one at St. Michael Parish) to place on an ambo under Pope Francis' picture. They would like someone to build an ambo for the prayer book.

Communications:

- Jennifer resent the e-newsletter out to parishioners who had not opened the newsletter after it was first sent.
- The updated parish website is still under construction. There have been some technical issues the committee is trying to get past. Lloyd will continue to keep the new site up-to-date until they work through those issues.
- Carol handed out Parish Survey results to members present. She also e-mailed copies to all Parish Council members for their review. Please take time to review the comments your committee received.

Finance:

- Jeff was unable to attend. Fr. Tschakert updated us on their meeting. The fiscal year ended on a positive note with a slight surplus for the year. The projected envelope increase was to be 8% and we ended with just over 7% increase in envelopes. Online giving has steadily increased which has helped carry us through the summer months. We ended the fiscal year with a balanced budget with many thanks to the Budget Subcommittee members focusing on the line item details.
- The Budget Subcommittee will work on their final draft for fiscal year 2015-2016 on Tuesday, July 14th and will present the budget to the Finance Council on Tuesday, July 21st.

Stewardship:

- No meeting was held in June, so no report was given.

Social Ministries:

- The Food Pantry Subcommittee met on Wednesday, July 1st to discuss supplementing our pantry with food from Feeding South Dakota. Eric Schulte visited with Feeding South Dakota about our obligations and presented to the subcommittee. The committee decided to go forward with using Feeding South Dakota as a supplemental supplier to our Food Pantry. We will be able to purchase some foods for as little as \$.18 cents per pound. We will need volunteers to go to their facility and pick up the food. Lori Gerads is working on an online calendar and will finalize details at the July Social Ministries Committee meeting (Monday, July 13th).

Parish Activities:

- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 3rd.
- Sunday, August 23rd is the parish picnic and Laurie asked Chad Schulte to call on some Knights of Columbus to help organize tables. There will be a backpack blessing by Fr. Tschakert.
- Turkey Bingo is scheduled for Sunday, November 8th. We are looking for several people to take ownership of different parts of this event. Laurie has agreed to provide information to help new members of the committee take over coordinating Turkey Bingo.

Youth:

- The Mission Trip to Martin, SD was an awesome experience and very rewarding for all who attended. There were 22 youth and 5 adults who drove to Marty with a trailer full of donated items. The first day they stopped in Marty for Mass and then enjoyed a pow wow before heading to Martin. In Martin, they worked with two groups from Methodist churches. They were split into groups trading off on painting, helping at a kids club, playing in the park with children at the day camp, weeding gardens, and helping at the local nursing home. Our students worked hard to get to know the other kids from the other groups. The last living Lakota Sun Dancer spoke to the students about his life experiences with alcohol and drug abuse and told them this is a path no one wants to go down. He shared what it means to be a Sun Dancer and much about the Native culture. Mary Jo had the opportunity to wash the feet of our students and explained what a humbling experience it was. They finished their trip with a visit to Crazy Horse Monument and to Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Rapid City. Mary Jo was happy to report they came in just under budget.
- Mary Jo is contacting Youth Works to look for another option for a mission trip for next year.
- Steubenville is coming up the last weekend of July with 35 students planning to attend.
- Y-Disciple Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 9th.
- The Youth Group from St. Katharine Drexel has been asked to participate in the Legacy Event in August.

Open Discussion:

- Chad Schulte came to the meeting to update us on his findings from other Knights of Columbus councils in the area in reference to “social time” after meetings. The Knights would like to bring in beer to be served after meetings. They have drawn up a safety plan which includes having a Knight standing guard outside the room much like their regular meetings and one inside the door to control what is brought in and consumed. They have purchased a liability umbrella policy used by other Knights councils. Chad suggested a 90-day trial policy. A motion was made to try it, but Fr. Tschakert reminded the Parish Council that we can't vote on something that was not part of the original agenda as some members were not present and it wouldn't be fair to pass something that wasn't on the agenda. Chad was encouraged to contact Joe Mauss to have this item put on the next meeting's agenda.
- **Note: The next Parish Council meeting is Thursday, September 3rd at 6:30 p.m.** We will not meet in August as schedules for many families are busy as summer comes to a close. Please plan to attend the Legacy Event August 14th-16th. You can register on the Diocesan website or on the forms available in the Gathering Space.

Closing:

- Closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted: Tonia Honner (7-6-15)