

## **St. Katharine Drexel Parish Council Meeting Thursday, September 3, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Members present:** Diane Nekvinda (Welcoming), Jan Feterl (Social Ministries), Darryl Dubs (Liturgy/Art/Environment), Carol Deering (Communications), Brian Berg (Building & Grounds), Laurie Christensen & Sandra Meyers (Parish Activities), Joan Gillespie (Youth), Lloyd Tooley (Faith Formation), Micah Mauney (Stewardship), Jeff Ellefson (Finance), Joe Mauss (President), Chad Schulte (guest from Knights of Columbus), Fr. Tschakert, Tonia Honner

### **Opened With Prayer**

#### **Agenda items & open discussion:**

**Knights of Columbus request:** The Knights of Columbus had approached the Parish Council in May about allowing beer after their meetings. The Council revisited the request after some research and found about half of the area KC councils do serve beer after their meetings. The St. Katharine Drexel Knights of Columbus Council have obtained the same insurance policy as the other councils who serve beer. They have drafted a plan that has their usual guard outside the door as well as an inside guard and a 2-beer limit. Chad reminded us that their meetings are closed-door and only open to Knights of Columbus members. They will bring their own trash bags and dispose of their garbage properly. Jeff Ellefson motioned for us to allow a 90-day trial period, and Micah Mauney seconded the motion. The Parish Council voted 8 in favor and 2 opposed. The Council also discussed that if any other party is interested in serving beer, they would have to obtain the proper insurance and have a plan in place as to how they will deal with consumption amounts and proper garbage disposal.

**Parish Council President:** Jeff Ellefson motioned and Jan Feterl gave the second to have Joe Mauss serve a second term as Parish Council President. No one opposed his nomination.

**Stewardship Fair:** See notes below.

**Gathering Space:** Plans are in the final stages; the designer would like to present the final design and projected costs to the Parish Council at our next meeting on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Fr. Tschakert mentioned the table outside the Parish Office should be one of the first pieces to be purchased as it needs a much cleaner presentation. Depending on costs, we may have to purchase pieces in phases as people donate toward the renovation.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Building & Grounds:**

- Twelve lights are out in the Nave and Brian is working with the team to schedule a date to replace them. Tim Dickes is also investigating a different light that is supposed to last four times longer.
- Results from the Parish Survey show that people would like to see more trees on the property. Brian suggested we start with a double row of trees on the east side of the property separating our property from the homes.
- Fr. Tschakert suggested we extend the downspouts on the building to push the water farther away.
- A question was asked if we were still considering building steps in the garage up to the loft. Brian will check on available space in the garage.

**Liturgy/Art/Environment:**

- Update on stained glass windows: The artist was ill recently, so the project was delayed a little. The edge for all twelve windows is being painted at the same time, so the color will be consistent. Six of the windows are paid for and there is hope that once the first set is installed, other people will step up and help pay for the final six. Each window is approximately \$5,800.

**Faith Formation:**

- The committee's focus has been on developing programs for the "Year of Mercy." The Vatican is putting out some information. Fr. Tschakert will have a "Day of Recollection" in the parish on Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The Parish Stewardship Fair is coming and they are looking into a prayer card to have at their table.
- Spiritual/Corporal Works of Mercy: The Social Ministries Committee would like to work together on this for the "Year of Mercy."
- Jeff Cavins program "Walking Toward Eternity" which focuses on *lectio divina* is a possibility for an upcoming educational series for parishioners. This could be shown in two sets.
- Fr. Mike Schmitz puts out a weekly video via Ascension Press and could be shared on a Facebook page and/or our parish website.

**Welcoming:**

- The last weekend of each month the Welcoming Committee has a table for newly-registered parishioners to stop by or anyone who is interested in registering. This has been very successful. The team welcomed nine new families this past month.
- The new prayer intention book is on the credenza and already has 1 ½ pages filled with prayer requests.
- Fr. Tschakert showed the final product of the new "Welcoming Packet" and everyone really liked it. This packet is for people who stop by or visit and would like to know more about our parish and the programs we offer.
- The proposed quote above the entry door "All Are Welcome in This Place," will cost about \$245 and the cost was approved. Darryl will check into quote that will be used as many members did not like having someone's name on the wall.

**Communications:**

- The Communications Committee has not met for a couple of months, but has been communicating with each other via email. They will continue to do so till after Stewardship Fair.

**Finance:**

- Jeff updated us that our debt is at \$4.1 million. We still have \$280,000 allocated in the Building Fund. The Finance Committee is projecting a cost of \$180,000 (our portion of the road) to finish Katie Ave., which will happen in 2016. They are looking to change the name of that fund to encompass maintaining our parish property.

- “Sharing Our Gifts” will be October 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Fiscal Year 2016 budget: This year the committee did a monthly budget to account for months that have five Sundays. They are projecting an overall deficit of \$15,000. The fiscal year has started off on a positive note which is very exciting.

**Stewardship:**

- Our Parish Stewardship Fair is September 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> and will take place in the Gathering Space. Each committee is responsible for bringing their own card table and decorating their space.

**Social Ministries:**

- The Social Ministries Committee would like to partner with Faith Formation Committee to work on the “Year of Mercy” projects, events and series.

**Parish Activities:**

- Our Parish Picnic in August was well attended. We estimated around 250 people came. The Welcoming Committee helped and encouraged people to wear name tags.
- Trunk or Treat will be held on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> after the 5 p.m. Mass.
- Turkey Bingo will be held Sunday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, starting at 4 p.m. and planning will soon be underway. We will discuss at the next Parish Council where the proceeds from Turkey Bingo will go. We will have to start soliciting for the bigger silent auction items. The committee would like to rent the table and chairs again as this was a big help.
- Sandra Meyers will fill in for Laurie when she is not available.

**Youth:**

- Steubenville: 27 youth and 8 adults attended; Everyone who went had an amazing experience, with several of our youth going to the altar call.
- August Y-Disciple Picnic was well attended by the family members and leaders of each group. We are looking to start another girls’ high school group and one middle school boys’ group.
- Youth Retreat is Fri.-Sun., Oct. 16th-18th at our parish.
- September-April the youth will hold pancake breakfasts, pumpkin painting, bake sale, child care, and talent show to raise funds to go on another mission trip.

**Closing:** Closed with prayer.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted:** Tonia Honner 9-8-15