

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2007**

Fr. David opened the meeting with a prayer at 8:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Father David, Karen Monsur, Tony McPherson, Elaine Abraham, Eileen Gretkierewicz, Jim Ruemenapp, Lisa DiMaggio, Patty Klecha, Deacon Ken Nowicki, Debie Hauer, Pat McGrath, Sean Stawiasz, Cathy Furtah, Stanley Sommers, Jane Petitpren, and Liz Koerber.

NOT PRESENT: Chris Ameel, JoAnn Augustine, Pieter Winne and Theresa Austin.

MINUTES OF May 8, 2007 Accepted.

COMMISSION REPORTS

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

- Del Haskin Report – 8 cards were sent in April. 14 cards to date in June.
- Funeral Lunches – 4 in May.
- May 20th was the last coffee/donut Sunday until September 9, 2007.
- The Anniversary Mass was held on April 22nd at 10 am. 20 couple celebrated their anniversary.
- 46 people came to the blood drive on April 29th. 19 appointments and 27 walk-ins. 35 pints were collected.
- Cope Report – To date 26 cooks, 3 drivers. The program should be implemented by fall.
- Habitat for Humanity – The nail sale is Father's Day, Sunday June 17th. Three volunteers are needed to collect after Mass.
- The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 4th, 2007.

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

- We have completed the Easter season, and the feasts of Trinity Sunday and the Body and Blood of Jesus. We now enter a long stretch of Ordinary time that will lead us to Advent on December 1st.
- After three formation meetings, we are now having twice monthly meetings possibly leading to a new Charismatic Prayer group at I.C. Fifteen people came last week to hear about the nature and functioning of prayer groups. Deacon Ken is the temporary facilitator.
- Formal music ministries of the hand bells and choirs have completed their seasons until fall.
- Three people were trained to be Eucharistic ministers, and one of them is also interested in being a sacristan.
- With Easter so early next year (March 23), the Easter Vigil will be at 8:00 pm instead of 9:00 pm in 2008.
- We are looking at the next parish mission in the fall of 2008, with Fr. Wally from the St. Joseph Christian Life Center in Cleveland, Ohio. The Mission: The challenge of being people of God.

SCHOOL ADVISORY/PTC

- This report is not available to date.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

- The Protecting God's Children seminar was June 4th.
- VBS – is scheduled for June 25th through the 29th.
- There are 14 people interested in the RCIA for 2007-2008. Jane plans to have monthly meetings in the summer with the people to bring them together and keep in touch with them until regular meetings begin in October

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Meeting Minutes for June 12, 2007

Patty Klecha gave her report of various items.

- The Budget Committee met recently regarding the school flooding in the kitchen. The floor had to be cut open and the problem was corrected. Patty had contacted the Maintenance Committee who submitted names of several businesses to call; our cost was \$379. The children at school raised 2/3 of the money needed.
- We are addressing the electrical problems we may encounter for the festival. Ira Township requires a special permit for the electric at the festival. Normally, permits require inspections, but Jane indicated that she met with Ira and she says there will be NO electrical inspections. We will draw the electric from the hall; use a GFI (ground fault interrupter).
- The other sub-committees are up and running, but some of the persons are so involved in festival activities that Patty will wait until the festival is over before taking inventory and addressing issues.
- Our goal for the CSA is higher this year, \$62,399. Compared to last year we are actually ahead in the number of participants but donation-wise we are behind. We are currently at \$24,822; last year we did not reach our goal. A follow-up letter is currently on Father David's desk, which will be sent out at the appropriate time. Tony McPherson showed us an amusing article about the CSA.
- Our Building Fund donations are run through the CSA so they are not taxed.
- Regarding the cemetery, our parish does not have a "Cemetery Board". Patty will pursue that with Father David. There is a grave issue at the cemetery location where a culvert is collapsing. The two brick sides are pigeon-toeing the gate together. There is a question about how many people have purchased graves but not paid for them. Patty would like to get everything in order by July 1st.
- Cintas is a uniform company but they also handle some types of maintenance. They stock bathrooms with tissue paper and toweling, provide mats for the outsides of buildings, we could get a new mop head each week for \$1 per head. They will work up a price for us for the items we would need here at I.C. The issue of pilfering, mainly at the school, should be monitored. Other things with Cintas are in the investigating stage for improved overall cleanliness and efficiency.

STEWARDSHIP - CONT.

- Patty was approached by a man from My Choice Energy and we will look into a price from them through Foster Oil, which would be a set price for 18 months. The Budget and Utilization of Resources Committees could handle this issue. We have an amount of \$46,000 for heat in our budget for the next fiscal year here at I.C. We also have a price of \$5,000 for a new boiler for the church offices but we want to stay under \$1,000 to fix the heating problem.
- We are ahead of last year for the money taken in for festival ticket sales and ads.
- Patty met with the officers of PTC last week. They have their own checking account, however, how it is managed and handled is an issue; it does not meet with AOD guidelines. They expressed their concerns and frustrations and the meeting went very well. They are mismanaged and misinformed. They showed a desire to cooperate and they will come into compliance for the next fiscal year.
- Photos of the Grotto and Assumption (painted dome over church altar) were shared with those present as possibilities for the sign in front of parish office, which is very tired and needs a new face. These were presented by Tony McPherson; our cameraman.
- Chris stated there is an outfit called Global Connect, which is a phone service that allows you to make 2,000 calls at a time. There is room for about 900 lists. At .07 cents per call you could literally contact all the people of the parish for \$89.
- In two weeks, Patty is going to Louisville, KY for a Stewardship Conference, which is an outpouring of evangelization. Also "Called By Christ, Gifted By Spirit" is something we should all attend, if possible.
- Patty reported that she called the AOD and learned that we CANNOT go ahead with another building project until we have paid off the first loan even if we have 100% of the money for the new project.
- We received a letter from AOD approving our new budget for next year. We submitted a deficit budget; some budgets are accepted but not approved. We were approved.

Norm made a suggestion that we not report the loose moneys in the Sunday collections in the weekly parish bulletin.

Craig told Patty that at the end of the fiscal year she should give an accounting to the parish by July 31st.

We did not get a refund on the telephone tax for the parish, but did get one for the school.

VICARIATE REPORT

CLUSTERS - Our Lady on the River reported that everything is great. They are completely merged. Fr. David asked if they would keep separate parish offices. Bishop Boyea thinks that St. Catherine will have some office hours but the main office will be at Holy Cross.

St. Stephen, St. Joseph and Our Lady of Guadalupe's choice of Holy Trinity has been approved for their name. The office is at St. Stephen. St. Stephen and St. Joseph plan a joint budget. Our Lady of Guadalupe will be kept separate because they receive grant

VICARIATE REPORT – CONT.

money so they will be monitoring that process independently of the cluster. They are working together well. Trying to decide the future of the rectory at St. Joseph. They now have four vacant buildings to deal with: The rectory at St. Joseph, St. Joseph's school, the McCormick building and the Neumann Center. McCormick is moving to St. Mary's in Port Huron. The Newman center is still on the market however it is believed that an offer has been made.

Holy Family merged on May 1, 2007. They are looking at office space next to All Saints to rent and combine all staff. They are getting an advisory committee together to decide how to proceed. Holy Rosary is closing Oct 7th. St. Phillip and All Saints Mass schedule will be adjusted. The ultimate goal is to have three Masses total. Fr. Joe is holding interviews for a DRE.

Ray from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Emmett, Sacred Heart in Yale and Sacred Heart in Brown City reported that Fr Paul Czarnota came to the Parish Council meeting to start working out the details of their cluster. They are preparing a retirement party for June 16th for Msgr. Edyk.

Bishop Boyea explained the difference of clustering and merging. When clustered there is no mingling of funds. They will maintain separate books, budgets and checking accounts. They could split bills and might share paying the salary of the pastor. The Bishop said Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Sacred Heart in Yale and Sacred Heart in Brown City are clustering not merging.

St. Steven is holding a raffle to win a trip for two to Italy. This covers the cost of the trip and taxes. Contact St. Steven's rectory. Woody will bring tickets to June meeting. Tickets are \$20 each Only 600 tickets will be sold. If not enough tickets are sold the drawing will revert to a 50/50 drawing. The trip will take place in October 2007.

EVANGELIZATION

No further information to report to date.

NEW BUSINESS

- Deacon Ken distributed a list of Holidays and Anniversaries obtained from the Catholic Source Book.
- The new members of the Parish Pastoral Council are Cathy Furtah, Stanley Sommers and Pam Mertes.
- Election of new officers. Liz Koerber will be the Chairperson for the 2007 - 2008 year with Lisa DiMaggio as backup Chairperson. A secretary has not yet been selected for the 2007-2008 year.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 11, 2007, 2007 at 8:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Koerber