

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2005**

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

PRESENT: Father David, Chris Ameel, Craig Surprenant, Tony McPherson, Pieter Winne, Nancy Miller, Todd Bont, JoAnne Augustine, Anthony McPherson, Michelle Meldrum, Theresa Austin, Pat McGrath, Elaine Abraham, Liz Koerber, and Karen Monsur

NOT PRESENT: Jim Ruemanapp

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2005 ACCEPTED.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Christian Service

- Coffee and donuts was held on Sunday, October 9.
- Blood drive was held on Sunday, September 25. 53 people signed in and 40 pints (plus 4 doubles) totaling 48 pints were donated.
- MCREST will be Tuesday, October 25, Thursday, October 27 and Tuesday, November 8.
- Harvestfest was held on Saturday, October 1 and was a great success.
- Funeral lunches started on October 1.
- Stars of Christmas to start soon.
- We will be sponsoring a dinner dance on December 2 in the parish hall for adults only. There will be entertainment by Sax Appeal.
- Next coffee and donuts is November 13.
- Next meeting will be on November 8.

Christian Worship

- Meeting was held on September 6th.
- The Eucharistic Year called by Pope John Paul ends the month of October. Closing ceremonies for the archdiocese were held at the Cathedral on Sunday, October 9.
- Father inquired about removing the rest of the old black railing in front of the grotto. After discussion among others, it was decided to remove it to create a sense of welcome and openness.
- All music ministries have begun.
- Ushers have a refresher meeting schedule in late October.
- Jane recently trained several new Eucharistic Ministers and one new lector.

SCHOOL ADVISORY

- Golf outing funds will be used to purchase new bleachers. They should be ready for the Jan. 06 JV basketball tournament.
- Underground electric line for the IC school sign needs to be installed.
- Nine students are currently in the accelerated Math program instructed by Mrs. Steele.
- SAC reviewed marketing handout material and offered suggestions/comments.

- State recommendation for a “Tobacco Free School” which prohibits all use of tobacco on the school premises, including church functions were discussed. Should this recommendation ever become a requirement, the Archdiocese would assist in guiding the Parish.
- Inventory and proposals by each parish were sent last spring to the Archdiocese. Recommendations from the Archdiocese were received offering suggestions on financing and improvements. On October 18 at St Mary’s Port Huron, all pastors and staff will meet with Bishop to discuss the issues.
- Anthony McPherson attended our meeting extending a challenge to all committees to create objectives with goals by the end of this year.

PTC

- Over 1100 entertainment books were purchased for this year’s first PTC fundraiser.
- Lady’s Night Out is scheduled for Nov. 3 with several new vendor additions.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- The faith formation year for grades K through 8 began on Monday, October 3. It appears that our enrollment will be a record high.
- Currently, our enrollment K-8 is 277 students.
- RCIA sessions have started. We have five people participating, not including older children with sacramental needs.
- Father David facilitated his third small group faith discussion at the DiMaggio’s house on September 29 with about twelve people participating. Session #4 is scheduled for Thursday, November 3 at 7:00 pm at the McPherson’s home.

STEWARDSHIP

- Attorney Don Robinson addressed the issue of insurance when renting buildings. Discussion on what is required, who is covered, and the importance of making it a policy of including insurance in our contracts of hall rentals was discussed.
- Don provided us with copies of the above guidelines and a sample insurance contract. A sample hall rental agreement was also provided by the Michigan Catholic Conference.
- A sample checklist that we should use when accepting a rental agreement was presented.
- Funeral luncheon committee is putting together prices for hall rentals.
- Anthony reported the engraving is done. 290 pavers will be installed initially (3000 total in project).
- Michelle reported that Jane Petitpren has turned in her budget. Mrs. Steele is working on her budget.
- Mike stated the building committee failed to provide for a telephone in the hall in case of emergency.
- Letters regarding the \$500 required contribution per family for school parents were mailed on 10/11/05.
- Awareness Sessions will begin in January 2006. Personal contacts with parishioners will be needed for a positive response.

VICARIATE

- The students that participated in World Youth Day in Germany will share their experiences at a dinner to be scheduled. At least one representative from each parish should attend.
- Cardinal Mooney has 12 new transfers and equipment from the schools that have closed. Their capital campaign is on going. New students need to be recruited from the parishes in the vicariate. The Archdiocese Education Director will be asked for information on vicariate wide tuition.
- 2005/2006 Vicariate officers are: Woody Brown-Chairperson, Sandy McNeely-Vice-Chairperson and Donna Wormsbacher-Secretary.
- The coordinating committee will meet with Cardinal Maida on 9-14-05 to review their responses to the Together in Faith surveys. Responses will be mailed to the vicars that afternoon. Our vicariate subcommittee will meet on 9-28-05 to review and prepare to report to the VPC meeting in October.
- Meeting dates through June were set. The next meeting will be October 19 at All Saints in Memphis.

LONG TERM PLANNING

No Report

OLD BUSINESS

Parish Council Goals (homework assignment)

1. To increase participation of parish members in parish activities so that the diversity and the needs of the parish are supported.
2. Assist committees to ensure that each are focused on their goals and remove barriers to enable them to accomplish those goals.
3. Rejuvenate inactive parishioners.

NEW BUSINESS

Homework Assignment

- Look at web site. What would you like to change?
- Attend another committee meeting.
- Need more goal ideas.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- Committee emails on yahoo- committee members could communicate with each other on the web.
- CPR- the Red Cross offers classes for approximately \$45. They offer on site training and is approximately six hours long.

PASTOR COMMENTS

Father David wants us all to have an enjoyable experience and appreciates our involvement. Father is looking forward to the opportunity to talk to parishioners at our upcoming awareness sessions. We need to make personal contacts with parishioners and invite them to these sessions, especially our new parishioners.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2005 at 6:30p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Monsur, Secretary