

Spirit of Life Parish Council Minutes
July 30th 2009

Present: Fr. Chad Gion, Ray Morrell, Louise Max, Don Hruby, Eugene Graner, Pam Treib, Marlene Helbling.

Absent: Paul Carmichael, Richard Bahm, Terry Milner, Kelly Schmidt

- I. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Fr. Chad at 5:30 pm.
- II. Opening Prayer: Opening Prayer was lead by Fr. Chad
- III. Election of Officers: Nominations were made for the new year's officers of the parish council
Chairperson- Ray Morrell
Vice Chairperson- Paul Carmichael
Recorder- Pam Treib
Motion by Eugene Graner, Seconded by Don Hruby to cease all other nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion approved.
- IV. Changes to the Agenda: The following items were added to the agenda for discussion this evening.
 - a. Respect life month in October
 - b. By-Law review for Parish Council
- V. Old Business
 - a. Council reviewed prior month's minutes. Motion to accept minutes as presented was made by Louise and seconded by Pam. Minutes approved.
 - b. Financial report was given by Marlene. For May, there was a loss of approx \$22,000. Fiscal YTD (11 months) the parish is in the black at \$19,000. Collections were ahead of budget in May and YTD. The parish is on track to retire the building debt. by December.
- VI. New Business
 - a. State of things:

Since the loss of the parish administrator, Fr. Chad has been fulfilling most of the duties, so far that is going well. Fr. Chad indicated that the website is in the process of being redone and will be changing webhosts. Council members brought up discussion about the placement of wheelchairs for mass. Eugene suggested that when people with wheelchairs come to church, they should be asked where they want to sit and the hospitality ministers will assist them by removing the end chair so the person can sit in the chosen seat. This was thought to be a good practice and will be communicated to hospitality ministers by a memo. The council also had discussion about the choice of gift bearers for the masses. It was brought up to ask for volunteers and then schedule. Since the simplification of the gift bearer tasks, it may be best at this time to leave the process as is. This would be for the hospitality ministers to choose someone at the beginning of each mass. This has been working well.
 - b. Parish Picnic planning:

Parish picnic is in the planning stages. It will resemble last year's picnic. It has been scheduled for Sept. 20th. The food has been ordered, inflatables are reserved. Laura has

been working on this. There will probably be signup sheets available for parishioners to assist with all of the jobs needed.

- c. Stewardship retreat:
Stewardship retreat is scheduled for August 28 and 29. All parish leadership are strongly encouraged to attend. Council members maybe needed to lead discussion groups. Members of the parish can also attend. So far there has been little response. More follow up contacts may need to be done before the retreat to encourage participation. Stewardship is the main theme for the diocese.
- d. Representative on CTK school board:
A position on the Christ the King school board will be vacant due to the resignation of Ray Morrell. His current job duties are conflicting with the meetings. Fr. Chad will ask Kelly Schmidt if she would be willing to fulfill this position since she is a member of the council and she has children that attend the school. A motion was made by Don and seconded by Louise. Motion passed
- e. Re-keying the building:
Fr. Chad brought up for discussion the possibility of re-keying the building. Since his arrival, there has been no system in place to track how many keys have been given to people or where they may be. At this time no estimates have been retained. More research will need to be done to determine the correct way to rekey the building. Council felt that it was important to get estimates and asked Fr. Chad to get estimates. Council will discuss again in November.
- f. Activity Center Renovation:
Fr. Chad wanted to begin discussion with council regarding renovations to activity center. This may be great to assess once the parish is paid off to encourage pledges to continue. The activity center is in need to major renovations, possible addition. The council felt that it would be great to get a committee established to work with designers and the parish to develop a design that would meet the needs of the parish for several years in the future.
- g. Parish Website:
Fr. Chad has been working with Larry Sebastian on the development of a new parish website. Fr. Chad showed council members the homepage design concept. The parish council members liked the idea and thought Larry should be given an in-kind donation receipt for all his time that he is donating to the parish to develop and maintain the site. The new website should be up and going by mid August. Overall administrative rights to make changes will be limited to Fr. Chad and Larry. Parish Staff will have some ability to make changes to their own pages.
- h. Welcoming Committee:
Fr. Chad wanted to know what the council thought of establishing a welcoming committee to meet and great new members of the parish. Ray thought that maybe the council could work with the parish Knights of Columbus on this process. Fr. Chad would like the council members to think about this. Members of this committee would need some orientation so everyone meeting with the new members will be giving out the same information. We would like to think of what appropriate items may be given to new members of the parish by the committee.
- i. Respect Life month:

Respect life month is in October. The council will discuss possible parish activities at the August meeting.

j. Review of By-Laws:

The amendment section needs to be reviewed and rewritten. The council thought that a small committee could make the revisions and present it to the council. Fr. Chad made a motion to establish this committee. The motion was seconded by Don. Motion approved. The committee should be made up of: Fr. Chad, Paul Carmichael, James Gustafson. Motion was made by Eugene and seconded by Don to accept these committee members. Motion approved.

k. Knights of Columbus:

Spirit of Life Knight of Columbus charter has been approved. Still some final details to complete. The Knights will meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month. Ray Morrell was selected to be Grand Knight of the council.

VII. Closing Prayer:

Adjournment of the Meeting was made by Ray Morrell. Fr. Chad followed with a closing prayer.

Next meeting will be held on August 19th, 2009 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pam Treib