

Spirit of Life Parish Council Minutes  
September 16, 2009

Present: Marlene Helbling, Fr. Chad Gion, Eugene Graner, Paul Carmichael, Pam Treib, Ray Morrell, James Gustafson.

Absent: Kelly Schmidt, Don Hruby, Richard Bahm, Terry Milner, Louise Max

- I. Call to Order by Ray Morrell at 6:40
- II. Opening Prayer was led by Fr. Chad
- III. Secretary's Report (July and August)  
Motion to approve July's minutes as presented was made by Paul and seconded by Eugene. The minutes were approved as presented. Motion to approve August's minutes as presented was made by Eugene and seconded by Pam. The minutes were approved as presented.
- IV. Financial Report  
Marlene was in attendance but did not have a report to present since the finance council had not met.
- V. Christ the King School Board Report/Update  
Kelly was not in attendance for a formal report, but has been a great influence and leader on the board.
- VI. Old Business
  - a. Stewardship Renewal Retreat update/next steps  
Fr. Chad reported that in reviewing of the evaluations, the overall rating has been a 4.7 of a 5.0 scale. The overall ability to interact with one another was a very positive part of the retreat. The presenter of the retreat was also well respected. As leaders of the parish, we should continue to provide support for stewardship in the parish. Fr. Chad also talked about the stewardship campaign that will be occurring. A packet of information will be mailed to all parishioners this week. The process will start this weekend with the announcement of the stewardship campaign, Next week will be a fair set up after masses for parishioners to ask about different ministries to participate in. The third weekend will be the actual return of the stewardship cards.
  - b. Parish Picnic, September 20  
As discussed, the picnic will stay with the same format as last year. Laura provided checklists with the duties for all the committee chairpersons. These duties lists were distributed.

c. Other

- Looking into the capability of providing WI-FI throughout building. This is something that will be incorporated as updates are made.
- The parish has hired a financial manager. Her name is Jeanette Martin. She will be working part time.
- Centennial books for the Diocese have arrived and are in the office for purchase.

VII. New Business

a. Respect Life Month – October

Wednesday rosary will be led by the Knights of Columbus at the rosary walk. There is also going to be a breakfast to support the athletes of the local special Olympics chapter. There has also been discussion about planning a pilgrimage walk between the Mandan Parishes. This may not occur this year, but something to jointly organize for next year.

The Council continued to talk about some signage on the church property. The council discussed the possibility of Paul working with Dominoes on a temporary sign in order to have something for this year. Paul will see if Dominoes would donate the portable sign frame and then have the church purchase a vinyl overlay for this year. A motion was made by Eugene for Paul to pursue this and the motion was seconded by James. The council would still like to pursue a more permanent signage option.

b. Parish Leadership Gathering – September

A meeting will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm to hear representatives from Catholic stewardship Consultants discuss the renewal retreat. Council members are welcome to attend.

c. Parish Building Payoff and Future Renovations Discussion

i. Possible Joint Parish/Finance Council Meeting in October

The intent of this meeting would be to brain storm and discuss a master plan for future needs and renovations. Ray suggested that this meeting should be led by an outside person. It would also be helpful if someone that is familiar with construction could also be a part of this meeting. Mike Hopfauf was brought up as a possible person for this. This process should be presented to the parishioners as an ongoing thing that will be done over a year or so. We will need to continue to evaluate the economy to make the best choices for when to pursue any major building and renovations.

We are still discussing and planning a “mortgage burning” celebration. A possible date may be February 14<sup>th</sup>. This will depend on when the actual mortgage gets paid off.

d. Other

Eugene made a suggestion that possibly a reminder could be made somewhere that if a server or liturgical minister cannot fulfill their schedule, to find a replacement or contact Jay at the office. This could also be something that could be put on the website under liturgical ministry.

VIII. Closing Prayer was led by Fr. Chad

Next meeting is scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Pam Treib