

Parish Council Meeting
Thursday, September 24, 2009 7:00 P.M.

Opening Prayer:

Fr. Rick led the prayer.

Present:

Fr. Rick, Gerry Nickerson, Fio Valmassio, Anne Gagne, Alice Cordovado, Amy Roberts, Beverly MacKenzie, Gene Nasal, Jim Leonard, Diane Hepner, Lynn Ferguson, Tim Stokes, Jim Coolican and Paulette Gildersleeve.

Acceptance of Minutes from June 25, 2009 Meeting:

Alice Cordovado asked to have spelling of her last name corrected to "Cordovado". Corrected spelling of her last name. Anne Gagne made motion to accept Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2009 and Fio Valmassio second motion. All in favor.

Election of Officers:

President - Gene Nasal nominated and accepted office.
Vice President - Lynn Ferguson nominated and accepted office.
Secretary - Fio Valmassio nominated and accepted office.

Fr. Rick Spoke to Council:

Fr. Rick spoke to council regarding several issues.

Tithing - Fr. Rick would like the Parish Council to consider becoming a Tithing Parish, tithing 2 - 3% of previous year's collection. Fr. did note that financial times are hard. Fr. Rick has done this at a previous parish with success. Wants Parish Council to discuss this in depth at each meeting and make a decision around the month of March. Fr. Rick explained that he tithes on his own.

Re-modeling of Old Church - This will not be brought up at the Religious Education Open House. Fr. Rick asked for permission to bring this up at the Masses and explain to parishioners that they can contribute to the Remodeling Fund. At this time will not start a pledge drive. This can be re-considered in 6 months and see how economy is at that time.

Priest Convocation - Fr. Rick attended the bi-annual Priests' Convocation at Boyne Highlands. Fr. Rick explained the changes happening. Savings interest for parishes' savings account will go down to 3% from 4% and taxes will increase from 6% to 7%. The archdiocese is changing the structure of vicariates but our vicariate should be the same. Archbishop Allen Vigneron spoke of three priorities. Number one is re-vitalization of Catholic Schools. Need to be Catholic instead of pagan. Number two is Renewal to commitment to people who live in the city. Need to take care of the poor. Number three is Strengthening the men in the priesthood. He is setting up a team of 3 priests to help the priests. Archbishop Vigneron also talked about Multi-Culturism racism. There was a talk on how to deal with change.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: There were none.

Visitors:

Amy Roberts and Beverly MacKenzie - Meditation Garden Committee
Asked for Parish Council's approval for fundraisers. The fundraisers will be the Poinsetta Sale and the Easter Flower Sale. These were previously fundraisers for the Choir. Amy Roberts checked with Elizabeth Dyc and Mrs. Dyc is not doing any fundraising for the choir. The committee is saving up for a gazebo. Amy Roberts and Beverly MacKenzie had shown to council an image of what gazebo will look like. It will cost approximately \$3,000. There was a question if the Meditation Garden is being used. Amy Roberts and Beverly MacKenzie explained that people have been in the garden when they have been there doing work. The garden is being used. Lynn Ferguson made motion to approve the fundraisers and Jim Coolican second motion.

Commission Reports:

Young Adults Need new representative.

Worship Commission - Anne Gagne

Presented report to Council. Parish Mission will be March 14 - 17, 2010. Flowers around the altar and how they are placed was discussed. Steward's of Gods Gifts will be put into bulletin.

Christian Service Commission/St. Vincent de Paul - Diane Hepner

Blood Drive will be held November 22, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Creative Hands group asked for Parish Council to set up display in social area the weekend of October 3rd and 4th. Advent Tea will be December 2, 2009. Quarterly Kroger Reward sent to St. Vincent De Paul for the amount of \$680.

Education - Tim Stokes

The Religious Education Open House was on Monday, September 21, 2009. So far there are 272 students. There will be 2 more Open Houses on Sunday, September 27, 2009. There will be two sessions held on Sundays. The 9:00 a.m session will be Pre-kindergarten, Kindergarten and 1st grade. The 10:00 a.m. session will be for grades 4 - 9. Found that there is a 98% attendance rate on Sunday. This is attributed to many activities during the week and it is much easier for families to have their children attend Religious Education classes on Sunday morning. 65 more students registered now than this time last year. More families are calling to register. New cubicles in old church building are working great. There is a problem with the lighting. Gerry Nickerson will look into this problem. RCIA starts on Tuesday, September 29, 2009. So far have received calls from 10 to 12 people interested and number could increase. Confirmation will be on November 8, 2009 at the 11:30 a.m. Mass. St. Mary's School asked if St. Roch can allow them to either pass out a handout or have article in church bulletin regarding the SCRIPT program. Lynn Ferguson made motion to put SCRIPT program in the bulletin, Alice Cordovado second motion.

Stewardship Commission - Gerry Nickerson

Boiler Replacement. The current boiler in old church is for a swimming pool, lucky if we are getting 40 - 45% capacity. Working with Ray Cordovado to determine the best and least expensive path. It appears it will cost more than what was originally budgeted for. The approximately cost may be \$50,000. All options will be looked at. Lynn Ferguson asked about fans running in the church during Mass. There have been complaints that the temperature is too cold.

Vicariate Pastoral Council Report - Jim Coolican

No report. There will be a meeting in October.

Old Business:**Tithe on Yearly Basis**

Parish Council discussed. Gerry Nickerson explained about budget - Parish currently \$203 ahead so far this year. Being very careful about spending, basically spending on hold. Weekly collections currently down at this time. Concerns raised if other programs would dry up if we are a tithing parish. Currently 3% of collection is going downtown for the St. Roch 's savings account. Recommendation made to have a group within the Parish Council to do further research on this. Gene Nasal asked for council to think about this. Lynn Ferguson will form a committee within the council to do research and present research findings to the full council.

New Business:**Remodeling of Old Church:**

At this time drawings and new boiler will take all the money currently in the fund. There was a discussion of organizing a committee and determine what is needed in the remodel.

Next Agenda Meeting : Saturday, October 10, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Next Parish Council Meeting: Thursday, October 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Tim Stokes led the prayer.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Paulette Gildersleeve

