

St. Mary's Parish Council Meeting – February 9, 2010

Present: Patti Piegdon, Fr. Jeff Tunnicliff, Fr. John DeSocio, Judy Beecher, Mary Ann Cleary, Don Holtz, Ted Hertel, Alex Granger, David Fagan, Jack Strong Sr., Laurie Desmarais, Tony Marks

Absent: Cathy Hulser, Mike Smith

The meeting was called to order @ 7 pm by Tony, with him leading the opening prayer. Jack made a motion to accept the January minutes. Ted 2nd the motion.

Committee reports:

- Buildings & Grounds – Dave Fagan reported that the committee met last Tuesday. They have an enthusiastic group, and divided up projects that need some attention to begin the process of prioritizing, cost of materials, etc. Good variety of tradesmen on the committee, and they have already been contacting Fr. John with follow-up on some ideas. They will meet again 3/2/10.
- Festival – will be held July 16-17. Patti will contact David Stearns to be sure we contact Hogan's and other places that may conflict with our dates. Also follow-up on where the committee stands with raffle tickets, etc.
- Finance – Mike
 1. Report from first 6 months of financial year notes collections are down \$24,000 from budgeted amount. All bills are currently paid to date, mainly because the staff has been very rigorous in controlling costs and spending. Much of this can be accounted for because of the turn in economy, and every new pastor can expect 15% decrease in the first year.
 2. CMA was budgeted for \$7,000; it will probably be closer to \$10,000.
 3. First item on the budget that needs to be addressed is the boiler in the rectory. It is the original from 1950's and is on borrowed time. The cost will come in somewhere around \$25K, possibly a little less. However, with a newer furnace that will be more energy-efficient, utility bills should eventually begin to show a savings.
 4. Probably in March the finance committee will distribute the financial report for the parish by way of a bulletin insert. This will show receipts and expenditures and make it easy for parishioners to view shortfalls in the budget. This is requested from the Diocese that all parishes make this available. This will be followed up by one of the priests giving a brief statement regarding such.
 5. Renovation payments are currently being met, for now.
 6. Parish had an audit by the Diocese recently. There were a number of "housekeeping" items to be addressed, but everything was accounted for, and all questions could be answered with no outstanding issues. Parishes will now be audited every 3 years.
 7. The Chancellor of the Diocese will be meeting with the trustees of all parishes in the near future.
- Parish Life – no report
- Social ministry – had meeting January 19th. Smile Train successful; we have been able to provide 69 surgeries; goal is 100. February 13th & 14th is Comprehensive Immigration Reform Public Policy weekend. This will be addressed at all masses this weekend, and cards will be available to sign and send to the politicians.
- Renovation – no meeting.
- Endowment – no change in balance, basically. No higher interest, but no loss either.
- Golf – no meeting

Old Business:

- **CMA:** Total donations are now at \$34,800; 77% of our goal. 17 families are off the parish registration list, and there are 13 new families.
- Fr. John spoke with Anne and Burt Beebe about the youth group activities. They are pleased this year as they have about 17 teens this year, which is up. He will be having a meeting with them to discuss ideas further.

New Business:

- Per Don Holtz – Corning Area Community Band and Sam Pellett band will be playing for a Sweetheart Valentine dance 2/13/10 at the Corning Auditorium to benefit the Children's Miracle Network. They will also present a concert March 4th at Notre Dame High School. Proceeds will benefit the Samaritan Center.

Next meeting: March 9, 2010 @ 7 pm. Don Holtz will present the opening prayer and snacks. Fr. Jeff will not be at the next meeting.

Father John led the closing prayer. Meeting was adjourned @ 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Patti Piegdon