

Parish Council Meeting 9/25/06

Members Present: Nancy Waldbillig, Patty Nordling, Dottie Knutson, Bob Kierski, Bill Stephan, Len Sargent, Bill Schmeling, Joe Hajduk,

Absent: Dan Miller

Others: Fr. Dennis, John Frank, & Mark Wood

Opening Prayer: Bill Schmeling

August minute approval, general comments on Side-by-Side added responsibility of 6-12 Faith Formation. Minutes approved as presented.

Finances: Mark Wood stated we are \$9,000 behind last year and \$12,000 behind planned. There were five Sunday's in July. We're 11.2% under plan for contributions and short on program income, just a timing issue. LIFE program, tuition is at about \$21,000 which is close to the forecast. Collections in September are starting to pick up. Fall Festival weekend a little off due to fewer masses. Expenses about 6% under. Next month we'll have first quarter results. The news could be better, but it's not horrible.

Fall Festival gross income around \$31,000, final report should be available for October joint meeting. Festival was a success, financially and socially. Fr. Dennis wants to keep all masses for Fall Festival next year. Nancy suggested it would be nice to have something in the bulletin saying that the festival did well, while people are still thinking about it. John agrees to take care of this announcement.

We have cut \$75,000 from the staff budget.

Mark expects to have pledge results for our next combined meeting.

There is an immediate salary saving with Matt gone. It will cost less to hire – fill in musicians.

Fr. Dennis expressed appreciation to staff and volunteers running the show and keeping things going.

Pledge drive is so important. Staff will use responses to update parish census. Drive is well underway; follow up letters will be mailed week of 10/02/06 and the last follow up with a phone-a-thon. Will be looking for volunteers from Pastoral and finance Councils.

Music position status: Fr. Dennis interviewed several candidates and referred finalist to select choir members for interviews. Naomi Stout was selected as the Music Director. A bio will appear in Sunday's bulletin.

Stewardship Forum: Dottie Knutson, Dan Miller, Bill Schmeling and Charlie Weber attended a Stewardship Forum sponsored by the Archdiocese. Bishop Morneau was the keynote speaker. There were breakout sessions on establishing endowments, developing a volunteer base and a presentation by Epiphany Parish on Stewardship life and process. General consensus was; Stewardship is an evolution over time. Having a school is an asset and it requires a huge amount of resources, Starts with a solid welcome program for new parishioners, such as the dinner St. Michael's will serve this month. It's not an overnight thing or instant return. Requires more discussion and information gathering,

Use the blue display board to post Pledge Drive results and upcoming events keeping parishioners up to date.

Parish Web Site: Need to publicize more. Do we need to make any changes? Do we want approved minutes and agenda's on the site?

Next meeting is October 23, @ 7:00 PM; this will be a joint meeting with Finance Council.

Old Business/New Business: Bob Kierski expressed concern regarding operation of the sound board control panel. Some microphones did not work at the 4:30 PM mass. The board appeared to be rewired and not replaced as found. Travis's presentation on Sunday could only be heard on one side of the church. Sound ministers should be consulted prior to any proposed changes. Only authorized and trained personnel should operate the unit.

Concern expressed for auction being conducted in the workshop area. The Eucharist had been removed prior to the auction.

Anxious for Fall Festival results.

Minutes assembled by Bob Kierski and reviewed with Bill Schmeling.

Meeting closed with a prayer and adjourned at 8:45 PM.