

St. Andrew Parish Holts Summit, Missouri

MINUTES

Parish Council Meeting

January 7, 2009

PRESENT: Msgr. Greg Higley, Randy Stegemann, Connie Schepers, Richard Schulte, Shane Boessen, Matt Fischer, Joe Veit, Tom Mehmert, Jennie Ames, Jill Coyne, Shelly Stumbaugh, Tom Gredell, Deacon David Thompson

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Mary Slinkard, Barbara Hartman and Deanna Haslag

CALL TO ORDER: Tom Gredell called the meeting to order.

OPENING PRAYER: Msgr. Greg opened the meeting with a prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried and the minutes were approved.

WHY CATHOLIC?

Earl and Vickie Pabst were present at the beginning of the meeting. First a short video was viewed with Bishop John R. Gaydos explaining the Adult Education program offered in our Diocese entitled *Why Catholic?* The adult faith formation program is for small groups. It is a four-year program consisting of twelve sessions per year and is based on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Parishes have a choice as to whether to offer this program. The cost is \$1,800 per pastor. Discussion followed the presentation and the response was favorable. Jennie Ames made a motion to present it to the parish for a year and reevaluate after the first year. Deacon David seconded and the motion carried. Publicity for the program will be presented by Msgr. Greg at Mass and through bulletin announcements. Some parishioners will be contacted to lead small groups and will need to be trained in the future. The program will begin in our Diocese in September 2009.

COMMISSION REPORTS AND OLD BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION

Tom Mehmert submitted the minutes of the December 30th meeting.

ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion of committee for kitchen and Veit Hall Improvements: There are plans to form a committee in the future to determine what needs to be done to improve the kitchen. In past meetings it was discussed that Georgia Munsterman had visited a parish kitchen at Holy Rosary, Clinton and thought they had good ideas for kitchen arrangement. Tom Gredell was in the vicinity and visited the church. Tom took pictures of the kitchen shared them at both the commission and parish council meetings.

Striping for parking lot after awning is installed: Wallau and Schneiders will install the awning when the weather is better. The parking lot will be striped once the awning is installed and it is determined where parking spaces will be.

Safety issues at fish fries The Fire Marshall's office was not able to make a courtesy visit due to an abundance of requests. However, they gave suggestions as to how to promote safety at the fish fries. The suggestions were discussed. Joe reported that the fire extinguishers are being recharged at this time.

ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION NEW BUSINESS:

Handicap Restrooms in Veit Hall and K of C Building: Four grab rails will be installed in the rest room stalls as a first step in making the rest rooms handicap accessible. The grab rails are approximately \$50.00 each depending on their length. Discussion regarding having a handicapped stall in each restroom was tabled for the future.

Fire Safety Discussion: a. fire extinguisher training b. Safety meetings with K of C fish fry members
3. No parking area in front of Veit Hall d. New burners for fryers.

Discussion of moving carry out service line to the K of C Building: This Lent there will be no carry out shack, but dinners may be filled in the K of C hall. It was also proposed that additional seating be available in the hall should the church hall become too crowded. The Saturday morning clean up crew will have to be bigger in order to clean the Church hall and the K of C building. Because PSR classrooms are in the K of C building, it is important that it be cleaned before classes on Sunday morning. Tom Gredell questioned whether there is a need for extra seating and if manpower can be spread any further than it already is. Tom Mehmert stated that sometimes there are groups that come together and want to sit together but because of the crowd they are unable to. Msgr. Higley suggested they come earlier when there is less crowding and when more seats are available. Msgr. noted the clean up will be twice as much if we add the extra dining areas, overextending manpower. The carry out will be in the K of C, but it was not determined for sure if extra dining area will be set up.

Budget six month report: The big ticket items for the year are completed and paid for. We still owed two payments to St. Peters at the time of the commission meeting but they now have been paid. Msgr. will soon publish a list of completed capital improvements so the parish can see how their special envelope donations are benefiting the parish. We will hold off on any future big projects at this time. Msgr. reported at the council meeting that we have \$19,700.00 in checking and \$72,500.00 in savings.

Elections: Elections will be held in the near future. Those who will be leaving the council are Randy Stegeman, Tom Gredell, Tom Mehmert, Richard Schulte, Barbara Hartman. Normally four people would be leaving, but there is an odd number this year. Three years ago Deanna Haslag was replaced due to a conflict with her being a voting member and a parish employee. Those being replaced next year are Jenny Ames, Mary Slinkard and Shane Boessen.

Building and Grounds: Even though we have had some heavy rains there are no further leaks. The air conditioners have been maintained and the grounds are in good shape. There will be routine inspections of fire extinguishers now that a maintenance plan has been established.

Office Update: Msgr. reported that we now have 458 households registered. All parish buildings in the diocese are being reappraised for insurance purposes and ours will be appraised soon. He also reported that tax statements will be available this weekend.

The next Administration Commission meeting will be held February 18, 2009.

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

The commission minutes were read and reported by Matt Fischer. The following topics were discussed at the commission meeting on December 18, 2008:

Music: At the meeting, Melanie Berhorst reported that the Christmas Mass music was all set. They have a new member on the music committee. Their next meeting will take place closer to Easter.

Homebound: Coletta Rogers had reported one homebound person, Robert Lueckenotto, and that Candy Smith has been taking communion to the homebound.

Pro Life: Mike and Kathy Forck spoke to the commission concerning the Stations of the Cross. They would like the Knights of Columbus to post a sign during the fish fries to let people know Stations of the Cross will be held in the church at 7:00 p.m. on those evenings. Kathy Forck had also reported that 450 people prayed the Rosary at the Cathedral with Bishop Gaydos. There was also information given about FOCA(Freedom of Choice Act). The publication that once was called *Open Arms* is now called *Life Network*. Matt Fischer gave an update on the monument for the unborn. As Matt was reading the minutes, Msgr. Greg reported the family of Bernie Kubasack donated \$2,000 for the monument. Msgr. suggested a decision be made as to where the monument will be placed so the size can be determined. The minutes of the Pro Life committee also stated there will be a letter writing campaign to nullify the Stem Cell Bill. A gift of spiritual adoption was presented by the Morning Glory class on Sunday, January 4th. The Pro Life committee will meet again on January 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Liturgy: There was some discussion in the commission meeting concerning the need for new altar clothes. Msgr. Higley stated he and Elaine Thompson are evaluating the condition of the clothes at this time. If new ones are needed, the Altar Sodality will take care of it.

There was some discussion by Msgr. and parish council members concerning the number of candles being used. The question arose as to whether donations are being made to cover the cost of the candles.

Decoration: The minutes stated Margie Hagenhoff reported all is going well. There were some concerns about all the ferns the Church was receiving and what to do with them. She reported the big wreath will be moved from the Church. She believes the tables in the gathering space are becoming too cluttered and will straighten that area.

Prayer Line: Barbara Hartman had reported to the committee that the prayer line is continuing in a consistent manner.

Nursing Home Visit: Marsha Clingman reported to the committee that no one has been sent to the nursing home. Yvonne Rottjakob reported to the committee that 4 to 10 people are giving communion at the nursing home. The residents of Summit Villa enjoyed the Santa Claus visit (Gerard Dudenhofer). Deanna Haslag played music and others participated as well.

Vocations: In the committee meeting, Jim Evers asked if someone is aware they might be unable to attend Mass the weekend they are scheduled to receive the traveling cross, that they call him.

Eucharistic Adoration: Joe and Yvonne Rottjakob told the commission that all is going well concerning Eucharistic Adoration.

The next commission meeting will be Thursday, February 26 at 6:30 p.m.

EDUCATION

Morning Glory: Jill Coyne reported the Education Commission was unable to meet, but read a report of the various activities overseen by this commission. She reported the Morning Glory class is going well. The children have various age related activities. The children listen well and participate. Parents are helping with the class and that is working well.

PSR: Classes will resume January 5th after two weeks of Christmas vacation. Parents of First Reconciliation/First Communion will meet with Msgr. on January 11. First Communion is scheduled for Sunday, May 3rd. Three classes won the canned food drive and will have a pizza party soon. Marilyn John is helping organize a PSR service project for the residents of Summit Villa. The next children's Mass is Sunday, February 22nd.

CYO: The CYO is meeting every Sunday evening with an average of 15 to 20 attending. They entered a float in the Holts Summit Christmas Parade and won third place in their category.

St. Peters: There will have an all day Kindergarten next year with the option of sending your child ½ day. They plan to start a pre-school as well and are renovating the old Vogelweid building for this. Enrollment is down but that is consistent with nationwide numbers. There are 55 students from St. Andrews

attending St. Peters at this time. A promotional video is being developed for the Chamber of Commerce website to attempt to increase enrollment.

A commission meeting date is set for February 24 at 7 p.m. in the library.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Richard Schulte reported the social concerns committee did not meet in December. He presented a budget. The balance as of January 6, 2009 was \$3,549.43. The cookbook was a huge success. Ron Ames worked hard on the project and the books sold quickly.

PARISH COUNCIL OLD BUSINESS

Status of Parish Directory: Msgr. stated that Marilyn John told him the shipment should be here within a week or more.

Chapel Security: Deacon David reported that Kevin still hasn't returned his phone call concerning the keypad.

Parish Council Elections: Names are being collected at this time for the election.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe asked if we could have a mission in the future. Msgr. stated he has talked with several people about having a mission and we will look into it in the future.

Randy mentioned the need to place an awning or roof over the upstairs back door. It will be kept on the list of future projects and hopefully will be completed next year.

Msgr. Higley's Comments: Msgr. asked if those going off the Parish Council this year would stay on their commission at least one year to help with continuity.

Msgr. closed with a prayer.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is Wednesday, March 4, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Schepers, Secretary