

St. John's Catholic Church
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2014

Present: Michelle Debord, Chair; Fr. Francis Musolooza; Walter Baldwin; and Cheryl Veselik, Secretary; Delores Boehm

Absent: Jose Olguin; Shane Smith; Stan Stefanowicz; and Barbara Claypool, Vice Chair; Randy Watts

Guests: Ann Baldwin, Chair of Liturgy Committee; Mary Dore, Chair of Peace and Justice Committee

The opening reading, Mark 7:1-13, was read by Mr. Baldwin.

Minutes

Minutes of the December 10, 2013, meeting were reviewed and accepted by acclamation.

Goals – Improved Communication: Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin both remarked how much they like the new website. A few items do need to be updated. Feedback should be sent to Ms. Veselik as soon as possible.

Committee Reports:

- *Peace and Justice* -- Ms. Dore noted that her committee is not supportive of pooling our money and giving it to Guardian Angels through Mt. CAP, pursuant to recommendations of the Finance Council, for several reasons, including the fact that they are not well established. If we decide to do that, that they would come to the Church to give a presentation as to what the money is used for. Each church would have their own list of expenditures. Discussion followed about the procedures used when someone needing assistance comes to the Church. For example, Fr. Francis must sign a check; cash cannot be given.

The Committee, for clarification, has four accounts: Santa Elves, Community need, parishioner need, and sick parishioners. The Committee asked that a quarterly collection be taken up, held in a separate checking account, and managed by the Peace and Justice Committee to assist with immediate need; however, the Diocese will not allow a separate account. Discussion followed regarding an organization that we can give a pool of money to that is open 24/7 that we can send someone to when Fr. Francis is unavailable. Ms. Debord noted that the Salvation Army operates 24/7 through the local Police Department, giving vouchers for a night of lodging, as well as a food voucher. Discussion also followed regarding homeless shelters in the region, including Wytheville, Bristol, and Roanoke. It was recommended that we take the budget for the Peace and Justice Committee, and portion it out to the local agencies who do operate 24/7 according to what we

normally spend monthly, such as \$80 to Guardian Angels for fuel assistance, or \$70 to the Free Clinic for medication assistance. This will help us establish an ecumenical presence in the community.

- *Education* – Mr. Watts was unable to attend, but Mr. Baldwin reported that Mr. Watts was looking into another Bible Study program with soup suppers. Nothing has been set up, however. Other suggestions discussed included films on various saints that could be presented.

- *Parish Life* – Ms. Boehm reported on the following events that are planned:
 - May 18 will be First Eucharist reception for the three children that are candidates;
 - February 23 reception for Deacon Stan;
 - March 1 pot luck supper;
 - March 8 Men’s Breakfast as well as a trip to see a play at Barter;
 - April 6 Wolfart House Diner Theatre,
 - May men will cook breakfast for Mother’s Day;
 - June women will cook breakfast for Father’s Day.

- *Building and Grounds* – Ms. Boehm reported on the following:
 - All the small lights were replaced in the Church. The larger lights had to be ordered and will be about \$13 each for six of them.
 - A leak has been found over the kitchen and a carpenter will be repairing it. He has also repaired the stairs to the attic that was very loose.
 - A small hole over the front door has been repaired.
 - Ms. Baldwin pointed out that there is a corner piece of concrete that has broken on the front walk recently.
 - Another hole was found in the attic and it has been repaired.
 - Cushions in the pews have also been repaired.

- *Liturgy* – Ms. Baldwin reported that The Liturgy Committee approached the Finance Committee about taking advertisements to offset the printing of the bulletin. The bulletin runs about \$500 per year. Discussion followed. A copy of the January Liturgy Committee minutes are attached to and made a part of these minutes. Ms. Baldwin will research advertisers.

The current music books can be used for only one year because of copy right laws. Permanent copy right books would be more money up front, but would save us money over the long haul because we wouldn’t have to purchase books each year. Ms. Baldwin has requested sample books for her next Committee meeting to review and make an appropriate recommendation to the Finance Committee. Discussion followed.

Also discussed the liturgy cards and that many of them are wearing at the folds. Can we relaminate them or would it be less expensive to reorder a few dozen more.

Father's Francis' report

Fr. Francis reported on the following:

- Diocesan Capital Campaign will be done in phases. St. John's will not be in the first phase. The Campaign is a fund-raising campaign for larger needs across the Diocese such as new roofs, new heating systems, etc. This is in addition to the annual appeal. Discussion followed.
- Fr.'s Bishop from Uganda will be visiting in March. It was recommended that we have a reception for him.
- Evangelization Program, *Encounter the Journey of the Gospel and Set the World on Fire*, was recently launched. The Program has five themes, one for each of the five years of the program. Discussion followed.
- Diocesan Construction and Renovation Commission recently gave a presentation in Roanoke regarding any major construction or reconstruction, particularly of the worship space, dictating that parishes must go through this Commission with an application process before any construction or renovation work take place. Discussion followed.
- First Reconciliation has not been scheduled yet. A meeting for tomorrow was cancelled due to the impending snow storm expected to hit the area tomorrow.

New Business

None.

Unfinished Business

None.

All gave the closing prayer by reciting the Our Father together.

The next meeting will be March 11, 2014.

No further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Veselik, CAP-OM
Council Secretary