

St. Catherine of Alexandria

8661 N. 76th Place, Milwaukee, WI 53223

St. Catherine Parish is committed to worshipping God and His Son, Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit. We are dedicated to living the Word of God by our Christian example. We shall achieve this through service to our Parish and stewardship of our time, talent and treasure.

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

February 22nd, 2011

Present: Debbie Hintz, Parish Director; Ken Laczniak, Chairperson; John Scholz, Vice-Chairperson; Frank Maier, Secretary; Joe Carey, Trustee; Frank Balistrieri; Lynne LeMense; Renee Serre; Ken Van Fossan; Bob Wazniak

Absent: Jack Fox, Trustee; Debby Korpela

Opening Prayer

Frank M. led the opening prayer.

Comments from Parishioners

None present.

Approval of January Minutes

Ken motioned to approve the November minutes and Renee seconded the motion. The November minutes were approved.

Catholic Stewardship Appeal

The appeal kick-off is this weekend. The group watched a video from the Archdiocese on this year's Appeal. It will not be viewed in church, but it is available at the Appeal's website.

Nomination Committee

The second-year members make up the committee; Frank M, Renee, and Ken Van Fossan. Ken L passed over the information from last year. The bylaws explain the details of the process. The election takes the place the third weekend in May. The committee will need to have the calendar set by the next Council meeting.

Processing Parishioner Input from Planning Process

The parishioner input responses were put up on the walls. They include the responses from the Council/Staff retreat. Debbie handed out the questions from the planning questions. Debbie stated that this process helps us see the positives of the parish and build on those. The group reviewed the responses and then discussed.

Some observations from the group included: Communicate better about what the committees and parishioners are doing; there are many opportunities to match

St. Catherine of Alexandria

8661 N. 76th Place, Milwaukee, WI 53223

different goals like involving youth groups to do activities with the elderly); there is a lot of pride in the welcoming atmosphere of the community.

Debbie asked for several take-aways: Ken L stated that young adult formation is very important and will build on the welcoming community. Joe gave examples of welcoming new faces. Bob added that bringing youth in helps the financial stability of the parish. Debbie mentioned the auction idea that would combine increased contributions and a social event. John pointed out that the liturgy must be good overall because of the range of comments. Ken VF stated that the amount of the outreach for the number of parishioners is tremendous.

Debbie will take these three areas and develop them more. She will have more at the next meeting.

Northwest Catholic Update

The meeting on March 1st will include a preliminary look at next year's budget. The open houses were rescheduled due to weather. Another round of open houses, one at each campus, is scheduled for April. It will be specifically geared to new families. The school also received a grant for a program that will help the teachers better understand students who live in poverty.

Parish Director's Report

Joe, Jack, and Debbie are going to a meeting tomorrow night about the bankruptcy filing from the parishes' perspective. Nobody is representing the parishes as a group to date. The Archdiocese and the victims each have their own representation. More information will be available next month.

Archbishop ListECKI has asked that each parish create a finance council, which would be on equal footing with the Parish Council. He is making this request under canon law. We have no further details at this time.

Committee Reports

Christian Formation – Frank Balistrieri

No meeting due Nicole's absence.

Finance/Administrative Services – John Scholz

The committee discussed the budget deficit, which increased to \$22k. The primary reason is that contributions are down. The parish's savings was approximately \$400k as of June 2010. A comparison was drawn to when we had our own school and most agree that we are in better shape now financially than when we had a school. The committee also discussed other contribution options including asking parishioners to continue their FIOF donations after FIOF ends in November. Shari also presented the first draft of the budget for next year. It does not include salaries and benefits yet. Joe stated that our expenses are on target. The next meeting is March 10th.

St. Catherine of Alexandria

8661 N. 76th Place, Milwaukee, WI 53223

Human Concerns – Lynne Lemense

No report. The next meeting is March 14th.

Parish Life – Renee Serre

The first Saturday social after mass was held and another one is scheduled for March. The committee will continue to gauge attendance. Ken L asked about the contributions to Coffee & Donuts on Sundays and it has been about break even. Renee noted that some of the same people are doing the most of the helping when events that need additional volunteers. The Women's Evening of Reflection during Lent this year will not happen because of the number of other Lenten activities. The next meeting is April 28th.

Prayer & Worship – Ken Van Fossan

The group met on February 8th. They discussed many housekeeping items. They also discussed placing a wooden cross outside during Lent. Jim brought up the implementation of the new liturgy responses and possible costs associated with the new materials. The next meeting is March 1st.

School Advisory Board – Bob Wazniak

The committee met on February 8th at the East Campus. Debbie discussed most of the topics above. Tuition will be raised next school year. They also discussed having an electronic funds transfer (EFT) for tuition and giving a discount for those who use it. The next meeting is March 8th.

Stewardship – Debby Korpela

No report.

'What are you hearing?'

There were not any additional comments.

Closing Prayer

Frank M. led the closing prayer.

These minutes respectfully submitted by Frank Maier, Secretary, Parish Council.

Handout: Parish Planning Process questions.