

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

May 31st, 2011

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

Absent: No absences

Opening Prayer

Debby Korpela led the opening prayer.

Comments from Parishioners

None present.

Approval of the May 5th Minutes

Bob motioned to approve the May 5th minutes. Lynne seconded the motion. The May 5th minutes were approved.

Northwest Catholic Update

The school is moving ahead with the restructuring plan. The major obstacle, bussing of students, has been worked out. This will put grades K4 through 3rd at the East Campus and grades 4th through 8th at the West Campus. School officials did have a heated meeting with parents. Some are upset that they will not have 'their school'. Only two families have backed out for next year. There are 287 students signed up for next year, which is much higher than usual for this time of the year.

Financially, the three parishes are getting some agreement on site costs. Invoices from the East campus have been coming in and those costs will not approach the \$150k budgeted for site costs.

Graduation was held Friday night, June 3rd, at St. Catherine's. A bulletin insert for June 4th and 5th will have information the school restructuring plan.

Deficit Budget Appeal

The parish has raised \$9,085 so far towards deficit and there are four more weekends to go. This also may indicate that people will continue their Faith In Our Future contributions after November (the parish would then receive 100% of the

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money contributed). Debbie's bulletin column this weekend will address three questions: 1) What is the parish's current savings?, 2) How much of our income is sent to the Archdioceses?, and 3) Why did the parish buy chairs for church if there is a deficit? In addition, the current total deficit will be in the bulletins until the end of June. The fundraising plans will still go forward because there is a projected deficit for 2011-12.

Faith In Our Future Update

As of the end of April, we have collected \$143k. There is \$70.2k in the account. The new roof, sound system, chairs, and marketing campaigns have been paid for out of FIOF. Remaining items include: \$20k allocated for community outreach, \$5k for student mission trips, and \$50-\$65k planned for a new organ. FIOF ends in November. Renee asked if all items are done and money is left in the account what would happen. Debbie said the remaining money would have to be spent on those categories which have money.

Parish Planning Process

Debbie handed out 'Goals for 2011-2014'. It included four vision statements taken from the planning process input and goals for each statement. The Council reviewed each statement and discussed them. Specifically, ideas were brought up for several of the statements. Go forward, the vision and goals will be presented to the committees and possibly assign certain visions to certain committees. The goal is to role out vision and goals to the committees at the All-Committee Gathering in September.

June Meeting Potluck Sign-up

A sign-up sheet was passed around. The June meeting will start in the Parish Office at 6pm. Incoming, outgoing, and current members of the Council will be attendance.

Parish Director's Report

A break-in occurred overnight between May 30th and May 31st. The intruder(s) got into the sacristy and Parish Office. Petty Cash and poor box contributions, \$500 at most, and Scrip cards were taken. Some papers were gone through in the office. It does not appear that the intruder(s) were in the church. The Archdiocese had notified parishes about break-ins, but those happened on the south side. The Police and our insurance company were here to investigate and assess the damage. We will put in a claim for \$4,500 with insurance company, who suggested we look into a security system. The parish currently does not have one.

Approximately 200 parishes have formed a group to protect themselves in the event any abuse victims attempt to sue parishes in addition to the Archdiocese. Our Parish Director and Trustees have reviewed the agreement language to join this group, which would require an initial \$1,000 contribution from each parish to, in essence, for a lawyer trust fund. A steering committee will make most of the major decisions for the group of parishes, who then would discuss any issues with the law firm

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representing the group. This is a way to make any defense of lawsuit more affordable. Joe recommended that we sign the letter to join the group, otherwise it would be very costly to defend ourselves. To date, no cases have been brought against any parishes in our Archdiocese. In Wisconsin, the parishes are incorporated separately from the Archdiocese.

Andy Kukec, our new music minister, starts July 1st. He will also work in human concerns doing some of the work Deacon Dan did. He is aware that Jim Stout was terminated. Andy also teaches at Marian University on his days off, but this should not affect his work at the parish.

Debbie had received letters questioning the Parish Council nomination process. The concern is that the nomination form does not have a place for the nominator to sign his or her name. It is still the same process that has been used for years. The key to the process is that any nominee has to be a parishioner and agree to be nominated. There is not a rule that the nominator has to be a parishioner. The Council agrees that the nomination process is acceptable in its current form.

Committee Reports

Christian Formation – Frank Balistrieri

The next Six-week With The Bible session will run from September 19th through October 24th. For summer, there will be book clubs; one in June, in July, and in August. The books were listed in last week's bulletin.

Finance/Administrative Services – John Scholz

The committee mostly discussed the deficit (see above). They also discussed the comparison of investment options for some of the parish's savings.

Human Concerns – Lynne Lemense

Lynne did not attend last meeting. However, two men from Project Return gave presentation. Project Return was one of the Lenten alms giving recipients.

Parish Life – Renee Serre

The committee discussed the Parish Picnic scheduled for July 24th following the 10:30 mass. The Chili dinner is scheduled for October 9th. For the summer, Coffee and Donut Sundays will continue, but the Saturday Socials will be put on hiatus through September.

Prayer & Worship – Ken Van Fossan

No report.

School Advisory Board – Bob Wazniak

Please the Northwest Catholic Update above.

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Stewardship – Debby Korpela

Debby did not attend last meeting. They discussed having committees at Coffee and Donuts Sundays. Stewardship appreciation weekend is scheduled for April 18th and 19th, 2012. The Appreciation Social was a major success and will happen again next year. The next meeting will be in September.

Closed Session

A portion of the meeting was held as a closed session. Debbie informed the council of a meeting she had with three parishioners, at their request, to talk about the Jim Stout situation and their request of her in return. The council decided to respond to the three with a letter.

'What are you hearing?'

Nothing else as brought up.

Closing Prayer

Debby led the closing prayer.

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

Handout: Goals for 2011-2014.