

Parish Council Meeting
Minutes
February 18, 2013

Present: Msgr. Garrity, Mary Hopwood, Michelle Johnson, Julie Chiarella, Tom Perry, Larry Moran, Patty Murphy, Andrew Cieslik, Trish Varga

Absent: Walt Hanson (vice-rep. present), Larry Lehmann, Pat Flood, Jeff Knox

Opening Prayer – Msgr. Garrity

- I. Minutes from previous meeting unanimously approved.
- II. Review of Finances
 - a. Handout from Msgr. Showing assets, cash reserves, moneys held in trust (e.g. church maintenance), debt reduction, building fund, etc.
 - b. Debt has increased slightly over the last year (about \$31,000) due to recent building (maintenance, pavilion, etc.)
 - c. Capital expenditures (always the largest line on chart) – money we pay out for the debt reduction and money we put into reserves.
 - d. Debt is down by \$5,000 since December 2012.
 - e. Sound system equipment and wiring in church is being repaired and improved. Eliminating lighting dimmer switch because it was cause of some of the electrical problems.
 - f. January – revenue was down, but not an unusual occurrence (due to parishioner Christmas expenses, harsh weather); more parishioners using automatic withdrawal could help to keep revenue more consistent
- III. Update on Building Projects
 - a. Preschool playground completed.
 - b. Waiting for pavilion tables to arrive.
 - c. Addition to the school is behind schedule – everything has been approved from all but the state fire marshal that has had the plans for about 2 months and is promising to get back to us this week.
- IV. Spring Fling
 - a. Msgr. discussed plans with parish and family life committee for the climbing wall, etc.
 - b. Trish passed handout listing all activities – horseshoes, inflatable houses, face-painting, volleyball, cakewalk, hotdogs and hamburgers, etc.
 - c. Need committee members to help set-up, run booths and clean-up – trying to recruit high school youth group members, Knights will help with grilling, etc.
 - d. Date set for May 19, 2013.
 - e. Will start advertising on website now so that people can mark their calendars and volunteers can sign up.
- V. Committee Reports
 - a. Administration – Larry Lehmann not present

- b. Communication (Packet emailed to council members prior to meeting) – Julie Chiarella (standing in for Walt Hanson)
 - i. Parish calendar has been set up, but has not been used yet (can be updated by authorized persons) – ministries to contact Julie if they would like an online calendar or email address. Eventually would like to have a calendar for each ministry – may take a while to have this up and running (will be up to each ministry to decide).
 - ii. In the process of finding an outside business to print weekly bulletins rather than printing and folding them in house.
- c. Family & Parish Life (covered in Spring Fling section) – Trish Varga
- d. Education/Faith Formation – Larry Moran
 - i. Vacation Bible School – new program adopted by the Diocese for this summer, takes a more professional approach but does not include pre-school and kindergarten children. Decision is between using the old program to include all children or using the new program and have a separate VBS for the younger children. Leaning toward continuing using the old program due to expense and conflicting schedules with parents and the school, and hear feedback from other parishes that use the new program.
 - ii. Comparing attendance at SJN School with attendance at Religious Education classes, would like to have numbers of registered families with children who are not receiving any sort of religious education, whether it be through Religious Education or Catholic school – would like to reach out to these families.
- e. Social Action – Pat Flood not present
- f. Spirituality (Handout) – Tom Perry
- g. Youth & Young Adult – Andrew Cieslik
 - i. Working on ways to increase youth attendance at Mass
 - ii. Michelle Johnson suggests program for college age parishioners. Al Forsythe is in the process of doing this.

Closing Prayer – Msgr. Garrity