

Parish Council Meeting
August 26, 2013
Minutes

Present: Msgr. Garrity, Fr. Manning, David Campbell, Jeff Knox, Tom Perry, Walt Hanson, Larry Moran, Larry Lehmann, Andrew Cieslik, Michelle Johnson, Trish Varga, Deacon Mike Gouge, Mary Hearnberger

Absent: Patty Murphy

Opening prayer – Fr. Manning

- I. Convent real estate
 - a. Msgr. was hoping to buy a house convenient to the church. The owner is currently not willing to sell.
 - b. Msgr. and Ellie are meeting with the real estate agent this Thursday to look at potential houses.
- II. David Campbell is unanimously voted to representative of Social Action Committee – will need to find a vice-representative.
- III. Projects Update
 - a. Parish Life Center – still want to let parishioners know that this will be happening in the future even though we will not be able to start campaigning until after the new cathedral is completed. (Plans of the future Parish Life Center are hanging up in Seton Hall.)
 - b. Pre K/2 Kindergarten Classes
 - i. We will have 2 new kindergarten wings and restroom facility – hoping to be moved in by October 1.
 - ii. Rain has been postponing the construction workers
 - iii. When Msgr. arrived, the church had barely enough students for 2 kindergarten classes – already have 25 4 year olds, hoping to pick up 10 or 11 more for the new kindergarten classes. Ideally, the preschool will continue to grow (want to build up the pre-k to complete goal of 2 kindergarten classes).
 - iv. Have picked up several transfer students for the new year, but are still slightly down from last year.
 - v. Msgr. spoke with Principal Bill about having a mailing campaign to collect money for the school (2 separate mailings).
 - vi. Msgr. suggested that Bill begins setting money aside for school reserves.
 - vii. More advertising for the school being discussed.
 - c. Sanctuary Painting
 - i. Bishop Stika and Cardinal Rigali have not always been fans of the clouds in the sanctuary.
 - ii. Bishop came to the church last week to look at the plans for a new painting.
 - iii. We're working with the same woman who painted the stones.
 - Idea is that the sanctuary would be the earth, then moving up is Jesus on the throne, then the Father and Spirit above in the cupola
 - Bottom 4 feet will remain wispy clouds, then it will get darker and darker as you go up with a sprinkling of stars
 - Illusion of rays will be directly behind Crucifix
 - Outside of arch will say "Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of Hosts" with a paschal lamb at the center
 - iv. Hoping to start this in January (trying to work around scheduled weddings)
 - d. Columbarium – start by building 2 units, then those units will pay for future units.

- e. Concessions/Storage Building
 - i. Would really like to complete the athletic fields and host tournaments (great way to promote the school and enhance our athletic program).
 - ii. Storage building is for easier access to supplies, rather than going back and forth to the school gym.
 - iii. Water on outside, electric on inside of concessions building to avoid using sewage system.
- IV. Parish Social Events
 - a. Homecoming (Oct. 6) – similar to Spring Fling; would like each committee sign up for taking charge of different areas (sports, set up, clean up, etc.) and finding volunteers
 - i. Would like to invite former parishioners to come back as well.
 - ii. Work on advertising more for next year.
 - b. Hold 2 family socials per year (i.e. ice cream social, homecoming, spring fling) – Msgr. would like yearly calendar of events for people to look forward to and plan for
 - c. Hold 2 adult functions per year – dances (Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day, etc.)
 - d. Plan to connect a ministries fair and student showcase with two of these events
- V. Pavilion Policy and Procedures
 - a. Similar to those for Seton Hall
 - b. People are ready to use the pavilion, we need policies.
 - c. Key is required to turn on electricity.
 - d. Suggestion of posting rules for outsiders who try to use the pavilion – Msgr. believes that this is unnecessary
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Parish and Family Life – Trish Varga (handouts)
 - i. Homecoming Oct. 6, recruiting help
 - ii. Coffee and Donuts schedule
 - b. Social Action – David Campbell
 - i. More involvement in pro-life movement
 - c. Spirituality – Tom Perry (handout)
 - i. Planning for annual Our Lady of the Rosary Celebration on Oct.5 and Total Consecration
 - ii. Plan for our turn with the Travelling Icon in our deanery (will be at SJN around feast of St. John Neumann)
 - d. Communications – Walt Hanson
 - i. Lost our public relations person, will try to find a replacement
 - ii. Cloud calendar now being used in the office
 - e. Education/Faith Formation – Larry Moran
 - i. 88 families enrolled in religious education this year; 20 in Confirmation
 - f. Administration – Larry Lehman (handout)
 - i. Convent real estate update
 - ii. Pavilion operating policy and procedures
 - g. Youth & Young Adult – Andrew Cieslik
- VII. Old Business
 - a. Sr. Restituta has PhD in pastoral counseling – very beneficial for parishioners (grief counseling, divorce counseling, etc.)
- VIII. New Business

Closing prayer – Msgr. Garrity

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Hearnberger