

Parish Council Meeting

July 15, 2009

Members Present: Fr. Mike Hilderbrand, Joe Wuerth, Larry Schmelz, Kevin Boone, Christine Myrick, Cheryl Walther, Marilyn Butler

Representatives Present: Building and Grounds - Walter West, Finance - Barry Geswein, Music Director - Dr. Janet Hamilton

Meeting opened with prayer "Teach Me to Listen" led by Joe Wuerth

June 17, 2009 meeting minutes reviewed and approved as presented.

Elections: Amidst recent personnel changes, a proposal to extend Joe Wuerth and Larry Schmelz positions for an additional year was proposed and unanimously agreed to by the council. Marilyn Butler was elected as Secretary.

Report from Director of Music: Janet was congratulated on her organ performance at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. Janet was on the list to play the organ for over four years. It was an honor for our parish to have her chosen to play. Janet is working on plans to increase Child Choir participation. Also, reaching out to the teen agers of the parish was discussed. Need more research to accomplish their willingness to participate. Janet is updating the songs to even better represent the readings at mass. The new choir equipment is working out fine. Readjusting the choir loft risers is necessary. Updating wedding and funeral booklet guidelines in order to better serve our church family. Planning to have extra choir participation for special holy days.

Report from Finance: Barry Geswein presented the budget for 2009-2010. 2008-2009 was over budget. However, there were several large expenses in the past year-catechisms, keyboard, sound system, van, music chairs, youth education, cemetery road, paving parking lot, office roof, air conditioners, insurance deductible and insulated windows. However, since this is not considered a problem since most of the money came directly out of the Legacy funds. There are not any significant expenditures planned for the coming year. Collections have been lower; however, the budget has been reduced for 2009-2010 to reflect that recent trend.

Report from Building & Grounds: Walter West reported the barn was roofed, the ice maker repaired, two highly-efficient air conditioners installed in the parish offices and installation of a used freezer in the cafeteria. The grounds are ready for the picnic. New items for needed attention are the van's air conditioning and the parish office basement floor. An update on stair railing to the cafeteria will be assessed before the next meeting.

Report from Youth Ministry: None

Report from Faith Formation: None

Report from St. Anne's: None

Old Business: An assessment and allocation of physical space for church programs is needed.

New business: Father asked us what are our vision is for St. Mary's.

Barry Geswein said we need strong plans to eliminate the insider/outsider feelings. All are welcome.

Walter West stated that we need to recognize and welcome new people into our church community.

Joe Wuerth believes the spirit of God is rooted in our tradition throughout Lanesville. We need to go beyond our comfort zone by learning and offering our services to God.

Kevin Boone noted that we must encourage our young adults (16-20) to participate in church activities. When the new DRE, Michelle Fessel, is on board, we will address this subject more fully.

The bulletin was discussed and it was agreed to have a subcommittee to address any needed format changes. Fr. Mike, Larry Schmelz and Marilyn Butler will meet at a later date and report to the council at the next meeting.

The meeting closed with a prayer.

Meeting adjourned.