

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

March 23rd, 2010

Present: Debbie Hintz, Parish Director; Mary Konshak, Chairperson; Barbara Holt, Vice-Chairperson; Frank Maier, Secretary; Jack Fox, Trustee; Ellie Okunseri; John Scholz; Renee Serre; Bob Wazniak

Absent: Ken Laczniak; Ed Schwanke, Trustee; Jerry Wolf

Opening Prayer

Ellie Okunseri led the opening prayer.

Comments from Parishioners

None present.

Approval of February Minutes

Renee motioned to approve the February minutes and Barb seconded the motion. The February minutes were approved.

Nomination Committee Update

Debbie said we have twelve nominated people at this point, but they need to be called. The nomination period is still open. There will be bulletins announcements most weeks from this point forward. Voting on the final candidates is the third Sunday in May. There will be four openings. A past member has to be off the Council for three years before returning to serve another term.

Faith in Our Future Update

Debbie passed out a status report, a copy of which will be in the bulletin this week. The pledge amount has changed, but has been consistent recently. The church roof is completed and the total cost was \$51,648. Two unexpected repairs with the roof (see January's minutes) and some snow removal added \$3,800. There was an existing fund with money specifically set aside for a new roof and this money was also used.

The Marketing funds have paid for an Easter mass times postcard that was sent out. This mailing cost \$1,098 and consisted of about 1,900 cards for the 53223 and 53224 zip codes. These zip codes roughly define our parish boundaries. In July, a newcomer postcard will be sent out to about 200 households. Again, the mailing will be limited to roughly our parish boundaries. The postcard quality is very good.

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There is enough money on the FIOF fund for the next two projects listed on the handout (Church Sound System and Pew Replacement). The chairs will allow for more room during funerals and will be more comfortable for the elderly parishioners.

The Community Outreach money does not have a specific project yet. Nicole has a local High School mission trip planned for the summer. There is not enough money in the fund for a new organ, but it does not need to be replaced for at least several more years. Ellie asked if there would be a forum to ask questions about the handout. Debbie will add specific contact info to the bottom of the handout. The Archdiocese will begin accepting grant applications this fall for their portion of FIOF donations (40% of the total). There has not been a recent update from the Archdiocese regarding FIOF.

Parish Director's Report

Northwest Catholic

Debbie said that things are going well with the school. The interim principal at West is doing a very good job. Interviews for a new principal will begin during the week of April 12th. The school's budget is in good shape. The expenses are lower than expected. Our parish has contributed \$36k and received \$16k back for use of the gym. Debbie stated that the school is doing better than most expected at this point. There is budget-specific meeting on April 28th and it is expected that next year's budget will be more accurate.

School Building

Debbie said that there was one new lead, but nothing else has developed. Debbie's long-range dream is to grow NW Catholic large enough to bring the middle school students to our building. Bob asked if we should set aside any money for that day. Debbie did not think that this was necessary at this point. She did say that the school needs a good cleaning. Barb asked about the old computers. Debbie said that we did not want to give away any additional equipment. Bob suggested donating some of the older equipment. Debbie said that we need to inventory the equipment in the school.

Christ Have Mercy Retreat

Barb and John were part of the retreat team. It went very well. Debbie said that those involved want to offer it again in the fall and repeat it more times in the future.

Mass Count

The Lent mass count happened the first weekend in March. The total was 632, which was the highest since the fall of 2007. The 10:30 mass is largest and the 8:30 mass is the smallest. The Archdiocese has mass counts done in the fall and during Lent. The numbers are used for planning purposes.

Church Roof Update

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Please see the first paragraph under Faith In Our Future Update above.

Archbishop Listecki's Visit

The Archbishop will be at St. Catherine's on July 25th for the 10:30am mass and parish picnic.

Other

Debbie has not heard if she has been renewed, but she was told that should happen in March or April.

Committee Reports

Christian Formation – Jerry Wolf

Jerry was not present, but there is still no committee.

Finance/Administrative Services – John Scholz

John reported that we currently have a \$74k deficit. One \$40k CD will be renewed unless rates are too low. Debbie said she would like to see some of our money invested in something other than CD's. She will bring it up at a future meeting. Nine parishioners are setup for the automatic withdrawal. The priests of the archdiocese will not get raises this year and the staff may get 0.5% to 1% raises. The committee will be looking at the 2010-2011 budget at its April 13th meeting.

Human Concerns – Ken Laczniak

Ken was not present, but Debbie said there is nothing new to report. The Blood Drive will be on April 13th. Renee stated that she participated in a Guest House meal service trip. She said it was very rewarding to see the men receive their rewards for progressing through the program.

Parish Life – Renee Serre

The donut socials for the rest of the year have been scheduled. There will not be any in April or May. The Ministries Fair was discussed and the committee will provide all food and beverages for both days. They are planning for 50 people after the 4:30 mass and 75 people after each mass on Sunday. They also discussed the parish directory, which will be done in the fall. A women's evening of reflection may be planned for the fall, as well. As mentioned above, the parish picnic will be July 25th and Archbishop Listecki will attend. The next meeting is May 13th.

Prayer & Worship – Barbara Holt

The committee met on March 2nd. The Ash Wednesday services averaged about 160 people. The Stations of the Cross services averaged about 20 people. About 100 black Lenten prayer books have been sold. The committee also chose the lectors for Holy Week liturgies. There also will be a Eucharist

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minister specifically for low-gluten hosts. Currently, there is only one parishioner that requires these hosts. The next meeting is April 6th at 6:30pm.

School Advisory Board – Bob Wazniak

The committee met March 2nd. A Development Coordinator will be hired. A maintenance person was hired for the West Campus, but the person has already resigned. The committee agreed to salary scale for 2010-2011 and a 5% raise. The school is on track to achieve the goal of 80% of MPS salaries in five years. They are planning to use the Mary Larusso Memorial Fund money for art and music. Other suggestions included signs for the campuses and scholarships for students going to Catholic high schools. There is about \$5,100 in the fund. The home and school committees have been slow to get started, but now have good support. The next meeting is April 7th and will be strictly for budget discussions.

Stewardship – Ellie Okunseri

The committee met March 22nd in the gym. The Ministries Fair will have a raffle drawing. Attendees will get one ticket for showing up and extra tickets for stopping at the various committee tables. The committee has received good donation items for the raffle, including gift certificates. The Fair will be April 24th and 25th. All the raffle drawings will on Sunday, the 25th and winners do not need to be present to win. The next meeting will be April 13th with representatives from the other committees.

Parish Council at the Ministries Fair

Barb explained that there will be a description of time commitment required for Parish Council. The Council table will use the photo collage that is in the church. The table will also have general meeting schedule for next year. Renee will help Barb make the sign for the table.

What are you hearing?

Barb reported that many people appreciated using the computers in the school building.

Closing Prayer

Ellie led the closing prayer.

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

Handouts: Faith in Our Future Status Report