

St. Mary's Parish Council Meeting – November 10, 2009

Members present: Michael Smith, Fr. Jeff Tunnicliff, Dave Fagan, Cathy Hulser, Alex Granger, Judy Beecher, Fr. John DeSocio, Tony Marks, Jack Strong Sr., Laurie Desmarais, Don Holtz, Patti Piegdon

Members absent: Mary Ann Cleary, Ted Hertel

Meeting called to order by Tony Marks, chairperson, @ 7 pm. Dave led the opening prayer. October meeting minutes were unanimously approved by the council.

Jack Strong, Sr. was welcomed as new member taking over the remaining term for Jeff Grant.

Committee reports:

- Buildings & Grounds – Mike Smith reports that Fritz Clark and Joe LaVelle have agreed to be on the committee. Fr. John and Fr. Jeff will arrange date for the first meeting. Dave Fagan will be the liaison for this committee.
- Finance – Mike states “growing unease and concern” regarding the decrease in weekly collections. Will track it until January and then reassess. ? Remarks from pulpit being contemplated.
- Parish Life – put on reception for the Memorial Mass last Monday evening.
- Social Ministry –
 1. Fair Trade sale was successful. Gross intake was \$1200; profit \$170 (goal was to omit profit to middle man, not to make profit ourselves).
 2. Christmas baskets – negative feedback on suggestions for family gifts. Our parish has 95 families with 443 people to feed this year.
 3. Judy asks everyone on the committee to mark their calendars to help, if possible, on Tuesday, December 15th @ 9 am for packing. Saturday, December 19th @ 9 am for basket delivery.
- Festival – no meeting.
- Renovation & Endowment – Fr. John had samples for memorial trees and memorial books as possibilities for renovation pledge fulfillments. Three categories were differentiated: Pledge of \$5,000 or more with a particular item memorialized (i.e. – Stations of the Cross, Baptismal Font, etc.), pledges over \$2,500, and then all remaining pledges. This will be revisited again as the loan is closer to being paid off.
- Golf – no meeting.

CMA: \$24,746 of the \$45,202 has been collect; 55% of goal.

New Business:

- Mass schedule to be changed from 4:30 to 4:00 pm on Saturday beginning December 5, 2009. Changing this mass time will make it more convenient for the elderly, among other things. Jack made a motion to pass the proposal; Judy 2nd the motion. One member opposed and one member abstained. Ushers will be asked to take a count of attendance for the 4:30 mass beginning this week, continuing indefinitely.
- Parish council minutes will now be available to parishioners. They will be on St. Mary's Parish website or available at the parish office by request.
- One member of the committee questioned whether the sound system in the church needs adjusting after having a difficult time hearing mass while sitting toward the back of church recently. It was serviced recently and adjustments were made. Fr. John asked that committee members move around the church at different masses to observe any differences.
- Suggestions were made to research and possibly develop either a teen mass, possible diocesan retreats, etc. Anne and Burt Beebe will be invited to next meeting to exchange some ideas. Don will contact Anne.
- Choir will be invited to join the committee following our next meeting and their practice for some holiday festivities.

Next meeting: *Tuesday, December 1st @ 7 pm. Prayer leader and snacks – Cathy. Everyone will bring an appetizer/snack to share after the meeting. Choir will join us.*

Fr. John gave the closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Piegdon