

Saint William Parish Council

Minutes of AUGUST 18, 2011

Present: Fr. Kevin Barnekow, Luanne Corcoran, Eric Engdahl, Fr. Curt Frederick, Tina Hannaman, Greg Johnson, John Kennedy, Anne Mraz, Joyce Pindel (later,) Dick Roe, Jeff Roubik, Paul Seifert, Bill Serb, Marcia Slowinski

Excused: John Kendellen, Mary McNulty

Jeff Roubik called the meeting to order; Fr. Curt led prayer and then all said the mission statement together.

Jeff Roubik then introduced Fr. Kevin, associate pastor, and Luanne Corcoran presented him with a basket of welcoming gifts gathered from council members. Fr. Curt added his welcome.

The *minutes* of the June meeting were reviewed; Anne Mraz moved that they be approved as written, John Kennedy seconded and the council approved by voice vote.

Parishioner comments: Fr. Curt said that he had heard many say that they were glad St. William had an associate pastor again.

Paul Seifert then sent around a prayer sign up sheet for the coming meetings.

During *committee reports:*

Prayer and worship: has not met.

Christian formation: has not met.

Human concerns: John Kennedy reported they would meet on 9/13.

Finance/administrative services: Luanne Corcoran said they had not met but had sent a letter marking the end of the fiscal year and sending the semi-annual statement to parishioners. Marcia Slowinski then presented the comparative financial report for the fiscal year ending June 30. She was very pleased to say that the year ended with a surplus of \$42,515. Contributions have increased since January, some parishioners left bequests, maintenance/repair costs were down and the Christian Women donated \$7000 to the parish. There were some comments and questions.

Human resources: has not met.

Waukesha Catholic liaison report: Paul Seifert reported on their 8/16 board meeting. He remarked that St. William's is down one representative. He said that the system had budgeted for 652 students this year; to date, there are 667 with a possibility of a slight increase beyond that. The board is continuing with its consultation, "Pathway to Promise." and will hold town hall meetings on 8/25 (St John Neumann,) 9/7 (specifically for Hispanic households,) and 9/22 (St. Joseph.) The budget for the fiscal year ending June 30 may be in the black; a final report will be made in September. There have been some personnel changes among the teaching and support staff. The board did change its by-laws so that no one may serve on the board if their spouse is employed by the system. (There was some discussion by the council at this point.) Paul continued his report to say that advancement was working on a greater on-line presence and using social media. He also reported that

because Fr. Howard Haase, who is currently the pastor liaison to the board, will be going on sabbatical in January, Fr. John Schreiter will serve in that position until his return.

Under *old business*:

Better Together/Vision 21: Greg Johnson said that this collaborative group had continued to meet during the summer. They will meet with the four parishes' human concern committee representatives on 9/7 at St John Neumann. They are hosting a retreat for all council members and interested parishioners on 11/5 at St Mary from 8 AM to 1 PM. There was some discussion by council members.

Pig roast: Marcia Slowinski reported that this event had gone very well. Nearly 500 tickets were sold and 453 meals were served in a two hour period. The event cleared more than \$2,300. The committee has met since and is working on quicker serving the next time, which is tentatively planned for June 10, to alleviate the long lines. She wished to thank the committee in the minutes; they were Pat Knuth, Sue Nettesheim, Connie Rubis, Sue Sieger and herself.

Raffle committee: Anne Mraz said the raffle cleared \$24,745, which was \$2,400 more than last year.

Day of reflection: John Kennedy reminded the council that this would be on 9/10 from 9 AM to 3 PM in Vercelli House. (Breakfast will be at 8:30.) The day will have several periods of reflection built in by the facilitator, Fr. Doug Leonhardt. Dick Roe then reported on the lunch possibilities. John also said that the council would be commissioned at the 5 PM Mass that same evening.

Faith in Our Future: Fr. Curt asked for forgiveness for spending \$1,500 on two power pack microphones which had failed spectacularly at a 7:30 Mass in July. (The FIOF committee had approved the expense.) He also asked permission to spend an unknown amount on fixing a leak in the baptismal font. The council consented.

Under *new business*:

Parish survey: Anne Mraz reported that she and Fr. Curt had met with Mike Hanson to develop the questions for this survey. They now have a draft for the phone interviews that they hope will touch every registered household. There was some discussion by the council. Fr. Curt offered to expand the group; Joyce Pindel and John Kennedy volunteered.

Prioritize council tasks/goals for 2011-2012: Jeff Roubik introduced the list of seven possibilities that had been raised at the June council meeting. Discussion followed. There was a strong discussion on youth participation in the parish. It was agreed by the council members that the Better Together group would be asked to discuss youth involvement and possibly do a youth survey. Jeff Roubik then worked on drawing the council to consensus on the goals for the coming year. They are:

- . Complete the parish survey so that the mission statement can be more clearly developed;
- . Work on a smooth transition to the new governance model of a finance council and a parish council by fall 2012;
- . Facilitate continued progress through Vision 21 to Waukesha parishes' collaboration.

During the *pastor's report*:

Fr. Curt said, as Paul Seifert had noted, that St. William's was one short in its representation on the Waukesha Catholic board. He had asked Bob Radomski, St William campus principal, for suggestions and was given several. He asked for the council's input. That given, he will

now ask those prioritized as first and second to fill the position.

. He reported that there were some staff changes. There is now a new youth ministry associate, Julie Dennert. Laura Garski has resigned as parish secretary and a replacement is actively being sought. Fr. Curt will be revamping the responsibilities in the parish office so that the business manager does that work and the parish secretary does the secretarial work.

. He is working on parishioner involvement in the committees that result with the structural changes that will be effective in District 4 next fall with the creation of a finance council. That council will be responsible for buildings & grounds, finance, personnel and stewardship.

. He reported that we continue to see new families register.

. He spoke about the need to patch the parking lot around the catch basin because it is crumbling beneath the asphalt.

. He asked the council to move towards using consensus/discernment in making decisions rather than voting. He sees the council having to meet less often once the new governance model is in place and it becoming more reflective.

Under *other business*: Anne Mraz asked about the pictorial directory that the pastor had mentioned at the May meeting. Fr. Curt then asked how that worked in the past. There was discussion by the council, including saying that Kathy Maday in the office was the lead in the project. Fr. Curt said he was willing to be promoter of this project and asked that it be on a future agenda.

There being no other business, the council closed the meeting with the praying of the Our Father.

recorded by Pat Knuth