

Saint William Parish Council Minutes of November 17, 2011 meeting

Present: Fr. Kevin Barnekow, Luanne Corcoran, Fr. Curt Frederick, Tina Hannaman, Greg Johnson, John Kendellen, Anne Mraz, Joyce Pindel, Dick Roe, Jeff Roubik, Paul Seifert, Bill Serb and Marcia Slowinski

Excused: Eric Engdahl, John Kennedy, Mary McNulty
Present: Mike Hansen

Jeff Roubik called the meeting to order. Luanne Corcoran led the group in prayer and then all said the mission statement together.

The council consented that the minutes of the October meeting should be accepted as printed.

Under parishioner comments, Anne Mraz said that a parishioner commented that Fr. Kevin's homilies were too long. After a bit of discussion, goofiness ensued.

Jeff then invited Mike Hansen, the parishioner who volunteered to work on the *parish survey*, to speak. Mr. Hansen spoke about his background and reason for suggesting the survey originally. He distributed an article about Pew Research on religion and another about GE's thrust in marketing. He has specifically been working on St. William's survey since July along with Anne Mraz and Fr. Curt. He then spoke of the process including the gathering of data, processing that data and using it to form goals and a strategic plan. He stressed the number of hours to really get the job done well. His concern was that the parish would not follow through with input of data, analysis and creating a strategic plan. He said that the process would not begin until after the first of the year and asked the council if it would support a part time position to make sure the process was carried out. There was much discussion, although not about hiring someone to work on the survey. Fr. Curt then asked if it was the will of the council to commit to the whole process. After more discussion, consensus was reached that it was the will of the council. Fr. Curt said the mailing of surveys would be early January, that the survey itself was now in its final form, that the cover letter had been done and that the plan was to begin calling within weeks of the mailing. More details were then worked through. Mr. Hansen was thanked for coming to the meeting.

Jeff then called for committee reports.

Prayer and worship: Joyce Pindel said they had met on 10/24. They determined that only critical announcements should be made at Mass, that tracking of liturgical ministers' meeting the schedule needed to be done and that the possibility of baptizing an infant at Mass would now also be available on the 3rd Sunday of the month. They decided to retain the two readers per Mass format and found they continue to need to recruit Eucharistic ministers. Joyce asked that council members be part of the one-on-one asking of parishioners to consider being part of liturgical ministries.

Christian formation: John Kendellen said they would next meet in December.

Human concerns: Luanne Corcoran spoke about the meeting, in John Kennedy's absence. Caritas for Children made a presentation to the committee at their 11/15 meeting; the committee will make a decision about promoting that agency at their January meeting. They also heard about the work of the outreach committee and specifically about reverse collections, both the three large ones each year and the mini-collections taken each month. The council then reviewed the outreach recommendations for November. There were a few questions and then the council reached consensus to accept the recommendations as presented.

Finance/administrative services: Luanne Corcoran said that Mark Mirsberger had put together some possible portfolios for investments of parish funds, which are currently in certificates of deposit. The committee then discussed the ratio of diverse investments that seemed to suit the parish best. In January, they will hear suggestions about what specifically would meet their criteria for long term (3 to 5 year) investments. Marcia Slowinski then presented the October comparative financial report. She said that envelope contributions remain ahead of last year, that expenses are under control and that there is still a need to promote stewardship within the parish to retain a positive balance.

Human resources: had met but had not informed Dick Roe as council liaison so Fr. Curt made the report of their last meeting. The group worked on a job description and advertisement for youth minister since Barb Gawlik is leaving in early January.

Liaison reports:

Waukesha Catholic: Paul Seifert reported on their most recent meeting where they heard that the accreditation study had been returned approved with no conditions; the official stamp of approval should come in February. The preparation for the annual auction is in full swing with good initial results from sponsors. The current budget forecast for the school system sees a \$22,000 surplus because of a greater enrollment than expected (the anticipated shortfall had been more than \$120,000.) The board spent much of the meeting on a 4 page summary of the Pathway to Promise report that included data, analysis and some recommendations. The pastors and school administrative staff will meet on November 29 to absorb the full 91 page report and then give its recommendations to the board at its next meeting.

Archdiocesan Pastoral Council (APC): Jeff Roubik went to their recent meeting, the first since Archbishop ListECKI was appointed to the Archdiocese. The group will meet twice a year. The group talked about the split into parish and finance councils and heard some recommendations about that split. They also heard that there will be an evangelization summit on May 5; one or two lay members of the parish are expected to attend.

Under old business:

Better Together/Vision 21: John Kendellen said that 40 to 50 people attended the city-wide half day of reflection which was both informative and enlightening.

Parish survey update: addressed at beginning of meeting

Parish pictorial directory update: Bill Serb reported that LifeTouch has purchased Olan Mills but that the two will likely continue to operate separately for up to two years. He

said that he had negotiated to have 24 activity pages and a hard cover at no cost. Bill then spoke of particulars including that the parish is given \$2 for each household "shot."

Under new business;

Declining Mass attendance: because of the length of the meeting, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

Greg Johnson asked if committee reports could be sent by email. It was agreed that was a good suggestion with some timing problems. Reports that arrive in Paul Seifert's email before he sends out the agenda would also go with that material. The council agreed to give it a try.

During the pastor's report:

Barb Gawlik is leaving as he said during the human resource committee report;

The parish spaghetti dinner has been moved back a week until 2/19 so it does not immediately follow the school auction event;

The RCIA Welcome & Acceptance of candidates and catechumens will be at this Saturday's (11/19) Mass;

He distributed an archdiocesan compilation of the status of priests in the Archdiocese and asked the council to draw its own conclusions;

When asked, he said that Fr. Jason had taken a permanent leave of absence which has been approved by the Archbishop.

He thanked the council for the flowers for his mother's funeral.

There being no other business, the council said the Our Father together and adjourned.

recorded by Pat Knuth