

# Saint William Parish Council meeting of April 16, 2008

Present: Father Leonard Barbian, Wes Borden, Rick Chiapete, Mike Culhane, Linda Deets, Tom Dougherty, Kevin Flood, Mike Hoge, John Kendellen, John Kennedy, Linda LaBorde, Jeff Roubik, Sue Sieger, Mary Thiel and Paul Trimborn

Excused: Father Jason Lavann, Marcia Slowinski

Guest: Mark Andringa

Sue Sieger called the meeting to order. John Kennedy led the prayer and then the council said the parish mission statement together.

Sue Sieger then introduced Mark Andringa, who has been serving as the attorney in the parish's interaction with **T-Mobile** about the placement of a **cell tower** on parish property. Mr Andringa spoke about the contract that T-Mobile had sent the parish which was all in that corporation's favor including no obligation to remove the tower if it were no longer in use and their ability to cancel at any time. He created a new document for a "ground" lease and then spoke of a recent appellate court ruling in the state of Wisconsin which gives the leasee rights to that space forever if the land has been used for 10 consecutive years. There appears to currently be no way around this; the argument could be made that it is taking land without compensation but that has not been tested in court. His version would require T-Mobile to remove the tower when it was no longer in use among other provisions that favor the parish. In the discussion that followed the basic question was "should the council commit the parish to do this" including weighing the income generated against the hazards. Sue Sieger proposed that the council vote by voice if they were in favor of going forward. There were no voices heard. She then proposed that those opposed at this time respond by voice vote. This was unanimous. Sue Sieger and the council thanked him for his time, his preparation and his presentation.

The **minutes** of the February meeting were then reviewed. John Kennedy moved that they be accepted as written; Paul Trimborn seconded and the council agreed by voice vote. (The March parish council meeting was cancelled due to the pastor's sudden hospitalization.)

### During **parishioner comments**:

- . A parishioner expressed her belief that the pastor had said that the council was not in favor of renovation of the organ transept of the church. It was agreed that he did not say that.
- . There was much concern about the pastor's health expressed in person and through phone calls and cards; Father Leonard is very appreciative of that. That led to Father Leonard saying that Father Jason (who had his tonsils removed on 4/15) was doing well, is now at home and will be back on April 23. The council will do something for him.
- . A St Joseph parishioner who was at the Confirmation celebration on March 30 expressed how well it went and how great St William's looked.

### During **committee reports**:

, prayer and worship: Linda Deets reported on the February meeting. They heard of the

contracting of Michael Hey, discussed a pamphlet they had read about Confirmation, spoke liturgical events and heard ministry reports.

. Christian formation: Rick Chiapete said that group had its wind-up meeting for the year in April. They spoke about those who entered the Church at the Easter Vigil, the coming celebration of First Eucharist, the speakers coming to St William's on various topics and other programs in child, youth and adult ministry.

. human concerns: Mary Thiel said they had not met. She presented the March outreach recommendations to the council. There were a few questions. Kevin Flood moved to accept the recommendations as presented; John Kennedy seconded and the council approved by voice vote.

. finance/administrative service: Paul Trimborn reported on their 3/27 meeting where they discussed the budget for the next fiscal year. He also reported that Luanne Corcoran is the new chair of the committee. They will next meet on 9/10.

In the absence of Marcia Slowinski, Pat Knuth presented the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008 which had been recommended by the finance/administrative services committee. Two items will come from separate funds that have accumulated from parishioner donations - the purchase of a new printing press and parking lot maintenance. After some questions, the council chose to approve the budget unanimously as presented by voice vote.

**During liaison reports:**

. youth ministry: Wes Borden said the board had met over Easter break. The box city event which was held the weekend of 4/13 was a great success with 22 students and 3 adults in attendance. They raised over \$1100 for shelters. The board will next meet in mid-May.

. Waukesha Catholic: Mike Hoge reported on their 3/18 meeting where that board reviewed and approved the budget for the next fiscal year. He thanked Father Leonard for his help in convincing the board to take a leap of faith in that approval. Mike Hoge also reported that the search for a new system director was in place with interviews beginning this week.

. Archdiocesan Pastoral Council: Mike Culhane presented a written report. He then spoke about the 2/21 and week of 4/7 meetings. They discussed the Pew survey on religious affiliations, reviewed the recent archdiocesan draft document for planning written around Archbishop Dolan's six priorities and discussed in their cluster the specific recommendations for Waukesha. St John Neumann had several people present to object strongly to the draft proposal for Waukesha. The cluster agreed to rework the recommendation and send it to the Archdiocese. There was some discussion. Father Leonard said that the same recommendations were made 10 years ago.

**Under old business:**

. nominating committee: Mike Hoge said that the initial meeting of this ad hoc group surfaced 36 names as possible candidates for the parish council. As of this moment, 12 have agreed to consider nomination and several are still undecided. The orientation will be May 7 in the evening and the election will be the second weekend in June.

. morning of reflection comments: liked the morning, enjoyed the video, thought the speaker (Randy Nohl) was "awesome."

Parish council minutes, 4-16-08 meeting, page three

. organ/renovation update: Father Leonard said there is nothing new. The plan is to install the organ during the summer and the design for renovation will be a deliberate process.

**Under new business:**

. developing ideas for a community oriented production for parish unity: deferred  
. summer picnic - form a committee? Father Leonard said that decision should be left to Cindy Bergland, adult & family minister.

**Pastor's report:**

Father Leonard did an update on his health. Next week, he will have a loop recorder implanted temporarily in his chest to determine what is going on when he next faints (and his doctors tell him it will happen again.) His MRI during Easter week showed he did not have a stroke as originally thought but rather has spinal stenosis. Stress is the big issue. As an example, 4 people died in the parish Tuesday and Wednesday of this week and Father Jason is on sick leave.

**Other business:**

Sue Sieger spoke about an email she got for parish orientation. St William does not need to consider since it has its own. She also received an email about the planning process.

Linda LaBorde moved that the meeting be adjourned; John Kennedy seconded and the council agreed by voice vote. The meeting concluded with the praying of the Our Father.

recorded by Pat Knuth.