

Saint William Parish Council

minutes of the June 20, 2007 meeting

Present: Father Leonard Barbian, Rick Chiapete, Linda Deets, Tom Dougherty, Kevin Flood, Mike Hoge, John Kennedy, Linda LaBorde, Jeff Roubik, Ginny Schuldenberg, Sue Sieger, Marcia Slowinski and Mary Thiel

Excused: Mike Culhane, Luke Gesior, John Kendellen and Paul Trimborn

After the council enjoyed a potluck supper, Sue Sieger called the meeting to order. Marcia Slowinski led prayer and all said the mission statement together.

The May *minutes* were reviewed. Rick Chiapete moved to accept them as printed; Tom Dougherty seconded and the council agreed by voice vote.

During *parishioner comments*, Father Leonard spoke of a couple of interactions with parishioners about the canopy. It has been positively received. The memorial bricks are to go into the walkway near the garden on June 29. Linda Deets said she had heard of a long wait after pictures for the directory were taken before talking to the photo company's representative; it appears this is unusual.

Sue Sieger spoke about the recent *council election*. All the incumbents - Tom Dougherty, John Kennedy and Sue Sieger - were re-elected while John Kendellen was chosen to fill the fourth vacancy. She thanked Ginny Schuldenberg for her six years of faithful membership on the council; the council applauded Ginny for her work.

During *committee reports*:

. Prayer and worship: Linda Deets said they had met May 17. The simplicity of the Lenten environment was well received. Next year, Ash Wednesday will be February 6 with Easter on March 23. The last week of September, there will be an evening for liturgical ministers to refresh and update their ministries. There continues to be a need for ushers for special occasions. The committee discussed summer attire and determined nothing could be done. They also heard about the new sacramentary's translations. Father Leonard then spoke about the insistence of the Vatican on faithfulness to the Latin and the difficulties that presents in the English translation.

. Christian formation: has completed its meetings until fall.

. Human concerns: Mary Thiel reported on their 6/19 meeting. They have made a decision to only meet six times a year beginning in the fall. The third weekend in November, they will host a "world fair" with fair trade items for sale. The next reverse collection will be in late July/early August for school supplies. Service days for next season have been scheduled for November 10 and April 12. Mary had distributed the list of outreach recommendations, the last for this fiscal year. The council reviewed them. John Kennedy moved they be accepted as presented; Kevin Flood seconded and the council approved by voice vote.

. Finance/administrative services: Marcia Slowinski gave the report in Paul Trimborn's absence. The committee met on May 22. They discussed the need for the organ and the fund raising tied to that cost which will be approximately \$100,000. The committee also

heard about roof issues. They knew that the canopy was nearly completed. They will next meet on September 11. Marcia then presented the comparative financial statement for the period ending April 30. Income is up 9% over last year, expenses are up just under 3% and more than that can be attributed to the Waukesha Catholic assessment increase. There were no questions.

During *liaison reports*:

- . Youth - none given in Luke Gesior's absence.
- . Waukesha Catholic: Mike Hoge said the school board had met on June 7. Committee chairs gave their year end reports. Third source funding which was a major focus during the year was very successful. The board expects to complete the fiscal year having taken very little out of the endowment fund; they had budgeted for well over \$100,000 to help them meet their current budget. Mike was elected president of the board for another term. Other officer positions will be chosen in the fall because of the large turnover in the board. The board also reviewed Dr Maureen Gallagher's performance and eagerly renewed her contract. The council thanked Mike Hoge for his work with the school board by applause.
- . Archdiocesan pastoral council/district level: Mike Culhane who is the St William representative to that group sent a written report to Sue Sieger. She read from it, saying that the meeting was poorly attended. The parish consultant for the area, Catherine O'Neill, gave the only report and it focused on the upheaval at the archdiocesan offices as well as the upcoming capital campaign. The bishops are beginning to visit parishes throughout the Archdiocese. There was a survey taken among the parish representatives. Linda LaBorde had a report that expanded on that survey and read results to the council. There was some discussion among the council members about the work and worth of the APC. Father Leonard then spoke about the possibility that the archdiocesan offices that were to move to the St Francis Seminary grounds may not because of a water problem. There is a viable buyer for the Cousins Center who may be willing to lease space for those offices in the current building.

Under *old business*:

- . Yearly raffle: Tom Dougherty said it was to be called the "organ transplant raffle" and distributed a sheet that showed the monetary goals for that fund raiser. There will be a presentation the second weekend in September at all Masses. The committee also plans to do bulletin articles about the place of the organ in worship. Father Leonard said that the capital campaign could add more funds for purchase of an organ. There was some discussion.

Under *new business*:

- . Selection of officers: Father Leonard read the call of Samuel from the First Book of Samuel and then reflected on being called to serve. He led the process of selection. Sue Sieger was chosen as chairperson, John Kennedy as vice chairperson and Linda LaBorde as secretary. Sue Sieger asked if the two liaisons present were willing to continue in those roles; the selection of liaisons will be done by the executive committee. Pat Knuth was asked if she would continue as recording secretary; she agreed.
- . Suggested rotation of committee chairs: Sue Sieger said that the executive committee

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wanted to initiate terms of office for committee chairs. Father Leonard advocated having a policy, as part of the bylaws, stating that chairs would have two year terms. Linda LaBorde suggested that the chairs be limited to two consecutive terms. The executive committee will draft a proposal that they will bring to the August council meeting.

. Farewell to Father Curt and Father Jim: they have been weekend associates for 2 years and 5 years respectively. There will be a concelebrated Mass on June 23. Father Leonard will present them with gifts and there will be an appetizer-champagne reception afterwards. It appears likely that they will both be helping out parishes on the East side of Milwaukee.

During the *pastor's report*:

Father Leonard said that the archdiocesan capital campaign has been approved by the Archbishop. There will be three sessions explaining it - the nearest one is at St Matthias on June 25. There is another in Racine on 6/26 and one in Fond du Lac on 7/10. He said council members are welcome to attend. He has volunteered St William's to be among the first tier of parishes (there will be three tiers.) He again explained the goal, that 60% stays in the parish and how the Archdiocese will use the money raised. Each parish has three years to raise their goal.

He asked that the parish council be in the procession for the July 1 celebration closing the 50th anniversary year. He asked that council members who had not told him on the spot call him to say if they are coming to the Mass or not and how many family members he should include in the seating. Father expressed great enthusiasm about the liturgy planned for that day and the celebration itself. There are 344 people coming to the dinner which makes it absolutely full.

He then said that rumors were spreading about his future at St William Parish. He told the council he could retire in June 2008 but has chosen to stay until June 2009. The council applauded. There was discussion.

During *other business*, Linda Deets said that, based on an email she had gotten from Pat Sennott, she was concerned about Kay Hokans. Father responded that Pat was handling the office details for the weeks that Kay was in Europe on vacation.

The next meeting date was not listed on the agenda: it is August 15 at 7 PM.

There being no other business, Linda LaBorde moved to adjourn; John Kennedy seconded and the council agreed. The meeting closed with the praying of the Our Father.

recorded by Pat Knuth