

SAINT WILLIAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 20, 2009

Present: Father Leonard Barbian, Rick Chiapete, Luanne Corcoran, Mike Culhane, Tom Dougherty, Kevin Flood, Mike Hoge, John Kendellen, Ann Kremel, Father Jason Lavann, Anne Mraz, Rebecca Rohde, Jeff Roubik, Paul Seifert, Sue Sieger and Marcia Slowinski

Excused: Mary Thiel

Sue Sieger called the meeting at the Thunder Bay Grille to order. Anne Mraz led the group in prayer and then all said the parish mission statement together.

The April 22 minutes were reviewed. Kevin Flood moved they be accepted as printed; Tom Dougherty seconded and the council approved by voice vote.

Under parishioner comments: There have been a number of parishioners asking when Father Leonard's farewell celebration would be. There continue to be favorable comments about the baptismal font. Father Leonard also spoke about those he had heard and said that there had been some adjustments made to keep the water clear. There was a question about communion distribution in the balcony; Father Leonard said it is working out.

Under committee reports:

Sue Sieger said there had been no meetings of the committees since the last council meeting. Father Leonard then distributed the outreach recommendations. After perusal by the council, Tom Dougherty moved they be accepted. Anne Mraz seconded that motion and the council approved by voice vote.

The liaison report for youth was given at this point because Rebecca Rohde needed to leave. She spoke about the summer outreach camp in Waukesha for 7th & 8th graders which will be July 29-August 1; it attracts many middle school students. She said the high school mission trip would be to Racine this year and is being done through Group Work Camp, an organization that sponsors outreach throughout the country. She said Box City was a huge success with 37 youth participating. When asked by a council member about the sale of mission shares, both she and Father Leonard said that was going well.

Marcia Slowinski then distributed the March comparative financial report. She said that both income and expenses were well in line with last year. She then presented some statistics: Eleven years ago when Father Leonard came, there were 1584 parishioner households; today there are 2222. In 1998, the year he came, the income was \$723,000; today it is in the range of \$1.3 million. Snowplowing costs in 1998 were \$2,500; last year (remember the snow!) that expense was \$21,500.

Under liaison reports:

Waukesha Catholic Schools: Mike Hoge talked about that board's 5/19 meeting. The system is healthy. There have been many fun events in the last few weeks including a walkathon and the 8th grade play. The informational/fund raising breakfast held in May for 4 years became a luncheon this year and was very successful with 228 people attending. The dinner dance/auction profit was announced and come in at just under \$105,000 – the most

successful to date. However, the board is still projecting a \$100,000 deficit for this year and will not know the final results until after the fiscal year ends June 30. Mike said that there are currently 730 students in the system and the budget for next year is based on 695 students. There are already 697 registered. He said the board continues to focus on the need for tuition assistance – currently more than 100 families are helped with \$160,000 in assistance.

Father Leonard remarked that Mike Hoge has been chairperson of the Waukesha Catholic board for four years, doing an excellent job; he led the council's applause.

Archdiocesan Pastoral Council – in hiatus pending a new archbishop. That raised the question about the appointment of a new archbishop. Father Leonard said that likely would not happen for months using St Louis as an example where it was nearly a year before the new archbishop was appointed.

Under old business:

Council elections: Ann Kremel listed the 9 nominees and one trustee who will be on the ballot for the June 6 & 7 election. She said more were needed to take care of the process on that weekend so she distributed the signup sheet again.

Transition of pastors: Sue Sieger said that committee had a number of ideas including a welcoming basket for Father Curt Frederick when he becomes pastor on July 1.

Under new business:

Potluck meal at June council meeting: Sue Sieger said that a signup would be sent along with the council agenda for 6/17 meeting.

Parish picnic: Sue Sieger reminded the council of this event on August 23 at Minooka Park. A Mass will be part of the event.

During the pastor's report:

Father Leonard refreshed the council about details concerning his farewell weekend. The 5 PM Saturday Mass will be his "farewell" Mass with a reception in the parish hall. He will be in the hall after each of the Masses on Sunday as well. Carl's Catering is providing the refreshments as a thank you to Father Leonard. He is packing and will be moving on 6/16 after which the inside of the rectory will be painted and carpets cleaned. He has spent time with Father Curt, filling him in on the parish and remarked that Father Curt was very good at remembering names. He expressed his gratitude to the council, mentioning particularly Sue Sieger who has served as chairperson for three years and Kevin Flood who will be retiring as trustee after several years. He said it would be hard to leave because St William's people have been family to him so he is leaving with a lump in his throat and tears in his eyes, quite literally.

Other business:

Sue Sieger said the night of the parish council meeting will be changed because Father Curt's day off will be Wednesdays. That will be discussed further at the June meeting. Ann Kremel will call the council candidates to inform them in case it causes any of them to back off of the ballot.

The meeting adjourned and the council then finished their meals.

recorded by Pat Knuth