

*St William Parish Council
meeting of November 28, 2007*

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

Excused: Rick Chiapete

Guest: George Gesior, chairperson of the Christian Formation committee

Sue Sieger called the meeting to order. Mike Hoge led the group in prayer; then all said the parish mission statement together.

Sue Sieger then asked George Gesior to speak about the work of the Christian Formation committee. He said they meet once a month during the school year to serve as an advisory group to the parish CF staff. The committee includes that staff, parishioners and Father Jason. The council asked an number of questions about the specific work of the committee. Sue Sieger then thanked George for coming and invited him to remain for the rest of the meeting if he wished.

The minutes of the October meeting were reviewed; Mike Hoge pointed out that the date for the Waukesha Catholic school board meeting should have read 11/27 rather than 11/22. With this correction, John Kennedy moved that the minutes be accepted; Tom Dougherty seconded and the council approved by voice vote.

Parishioner comments: There were comments about the reception of the phone calls made for the capital campaign (primarily positive) and the number of households that were out of town that weekend.

During committee reports:

. Prayer and worship - Linda Deets that the committee had not met since the last council meeting but would be meeting on 11/29.

. Christian formation - Sue Sieger read an email sent by Rick Chiapete in his absence from this meeting. At their last meeting, they discussed Confirmation retreats, spoke about the good publicity for events, spoke about a possible "when parents feel their child is ready" option for children receiving First Reconciliation and First Eucharist which they will delve into more thoroughly at their January meeting and are looking for a way to simplify the calendar of parish events so there is not as much overlap. There was some discussion by council members about offering an option for first reception of sacraments to the parents. One of the biggest issues is some parents' unwillingness to attend the preparation meetings.

. Human concerns - Mary Thiel said the committee would next meet at the end of January. She presented the November outreach recommendations to the council. After review, Kevin Flood moved that the recommendations be accepted as printed, John Kennedy seconded and the council approved by voice vote.

. Finance/administrative services - Paul Trimborn reported on the 11/8 meeting where the

committee discussed the organ, the retaining wall behind the gym which needs rebuilding, the proposed cell tower and budget concerns for the next fiscal year. Father Leonard said the parish attorney contacted T-Mobile about the cell tower proposal and will be going over the leasing contract. He also said that there are some maintenance problems with the men's room in the gym area which need to be addressed.

Marcia Slowinski then reviewed the October financial comparison report with the council. There is a healthy increase over last year's income and expenses are stable. There were some questions and discussion.

During liaison reports:

. Youth - Wes Borden said the youth board had its first meeting on November 25. The area parish youth ministries have agreed to work on improving the church communities. The youth board chose to focus on different cultures and on cliques in school. At the next hospitality weekend, they will do a display about cultures. They also discussed doing some fun activities with the cluster parishes. There were some questions from the council to Wes about youth ministry.

*The council agenda was set aside at this point so that Charlotte Villwock, director of music and liturgy, and two representatives from Brook Falls Organ & Piano Company could make a presentation about a possible choice for the organ. Charlotte introduced Louis Sticks and John Pankau who then spoke about their recommendation. The organ they recommend for this space is the electronic Allen Renaissance Quantum which is a 80 stop, 3-manual console. Their quoted price is \$124,930. Charlotte had gotten proposals from four companies, including one for rebuilding the current instrument. A dialog between the two representatives and the council then occurred. When all the current questions had been addressed, Sue Sieger thanked Charlotte and the two men for coming to the council meeting.

Returning to the agenda:

. Waukesha Catholic - Mike Hoge reported on the meeting of 11/27. The enrollment in the system now stands at 754. The initiative of offering after-school programming this year has created a lot of energy. He said that representatives from the Home and School organization also were at the meeting to propose a walk-a-thon, both as a fund raiser and to promote a healthier life style. The board has begun the pre-planning for Catholic Schools Week in late January. There were some questions from the council especially about the scope and attendance of the after-school programming.

. Archdiocesan Pastoral Council - Mike Culhane spoke about the archdiocesan leadership conference in late October. They heard about the Living Our Faith initiative and the archdiocesan planning process headed by Father Jim Connell, including viewing some of the media examples for Living Our Faith. Those attending could choose to hear more about the Capital Campaign or go to district meetings; Mike Culhane did the latter. Father Leonard then distributed to the council some of the print materials that come with the Living Our Faith initiative.

During old business:

. Parents' Place - Sue Sieger spoke about the council being asked again to host a meal at this Waukesha facility one time in the coming year. In the discussion, it was clear that it has gone well in the past but is a lot of work. Sue asked for a voice vote about continuing

as the council had with this meal; the response was negative. She said she would take back the council's concerns to Cindy Bergland, adult & family minister.

. Raffle update - Tom Dougherty said it was finished with about the same profit as previous years. Father Leonard remarked that all the prize winners were parishioners.

During new business:

. Parental involvement in church activities: Sue Sieger said this discussion would be postponed until January because of the length of tonight's meeting.

. Morning of reflection - will be for council and staff members to be held on 2/23 from 8:30-11:45 AM with Randy Nohl of the John Paul II Institute as the presenter.

During the pastor's report, Father Leonard spoke about the current results of the Capital Campaign which "as-of-today" was \$1,283,250 in pledges. St William's share of this is 60% of the total collected. This will be announced the first weekend in December. He remarked that it was not the wealthiest parishioners who accounted for this but rather the people in the pews making a sacrifice. He has had negative responses as well especially over a new organ and a baptismal font.

He reminded the members about the council Christmas party on December 8 and Sue Sieger passed around a sign-up sheet for that event.

He also told the council that the new auxiliary bishop, William Callahan, would be presider at the 10:45 Mass here on 12/23, just two days after he is ordained bishop.

There being no other business, John Kennedy moved that meeting be adjourned and Father Jason seconded. There was voice approval by the council. The meeting then closed with the praying of the Our Father.

recorded by Pat Knuth