

*Saint William parish council
minutes of the October 18, 2006 meeting*

Present: Father Leonard Barbian, Rick Chiapete, Mike Culhane, Linda Deets, Tom Dougherty, Luke Gesior, Mike Hoge, John Kennedy, Linda LaBorde, Jeff Roubik, Sue Sieger, Marcia Slowinski, Mary Thiel and Paul Trimborn

Excused: Kevin Flood, Ginny Schuldenberg

Sue Sieger called the meeting to order. Linda Deets led the group in prayer. Then all read the parish mission statement together. Sue Sieger announced that Rick Chiapete had agreed to take the position vacated by Bill Kelly who resigned for medical reasons.

The *minutes* of the September 20 meeting were reviewed. John Kennedy moved they be accepted as printed; Jeff Roubik seconded and the council approved. The minutes will now be on the parish website.

During *parishioner comments*, Marcia Slowinski said the carpeting in the sanctuary looked great. Other council members agreed.

Under *committee reports*:

- Prayer and Worship: Linda Deets reported on the meeting of 10/17. The fall Mass count of 2107 was 105 greater than the same time last year. The committee decided that the Advent focus would be "Advent...anticipate with joy" and chose two give-aways for that season. They also discussed the distractions in church, especially crying children and decided that the first step would be a broader advertisement for the nursery especially at the 9 AM Mass. A council member then asked Father Leonard about the environment committee; he said a small group is functioning in that capacity.

- Christian Formation: there was no report in the absence of Ginny Schuldenberg.

- Human Concerns: Mary Thiel reported on their last meeting. The fall service day was well-organized but had about half the participants of the spring service day. The commitment to providing a meal once a month at Parents' Place ends in December; it is not yet clear if the same parish groups will be asked to host a meal in 2007. The Respect Life subcommittee is sponsoring "spiritual adoption" again this fall. The Soup with Substance on October 26 will be on the state death penalty referendum in November. Life Chain in early October had a great parish representation. The committee discussed the Agape meal. Many appliances were gathered for the sister parish community. There will be a reverse collection the weekend of December 10 for the Christmas Clearing Council which will again be housed at St William's with a distribution date of December 16. Disciples in Action is looking for a new project. This comment

sparked some discussion among council members and there was agreement that many aspects of the human concerns arena were initiated by Disciples in Action. Mary Thiel then continued her report to say that the Ethan Allen ministry was no longer drawing boys even though there are prepared volunteers. There is a move to change the meeting night to Thursday so Father Leonard can attend but the next meeting will again be on a Monday (11/6.)

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The outreach recommendations were then presented in written form to the council. Father Leonard raised a concern about providing funding for Messmer when they are being funded by the voucher program in Milwaukee and by John Stollenwerk's foundation. After some discussion both about this concern and about the process for approval of these recommendations, Marcia Slowinski moved that the recommendations be accepted with the exception of the Messmer funding; John Kennedy seconded and the council approved that motion by voice vote.

- Finance/administrative services: Paul Trimborn said the next meeting would be 11/21. Marcia Slowinski then presented the September comparative numbers in writing. This report covered the first quarter of the fiscal year. She noted that revenue was up slightly and that expenses were normal and under control.

During *liaison reports*:

- Luke Gesior said that the youth board had had its first meeting of the year. They will continue doing the Lenten collection, Souper Bowl Sunday and Box City. They plan to do a food drive around the same time as Souper Bowl Sunday. They are working on drawing together youth representatives from each of the cluster parishes to plan common events.

- Mike Hoge reported on the Waukesha Catholic board meeting of 9/26 where that group elected the remainder of the officers, appointed liaisons and reviewed the final draft of the school system bylaws which had been revised to match how the system truly functions. They received the financial report from the last fiscal year and were pleased that they did not need to dip into the endowment as originally thought. They are implementing the strategic plan that was their primary work last school year and intently focusing on third source funding. Good momentum is already in place and a advancement subcommittee is in the process of being created. Their enrollment is up slightly after five years of a steady decline.

They are aiming to grow at the rate of 5% a year. The board will next meet on 11/14.

- Mike Culhane said the first district meeting of the Archdiocesan Pastoral

Council is scheduled for 11/16.

Under *old business*:

- Endowment Fund: John Kennedy gave the council a written update and added comments.

He and Scott Campbell are facilitating the development of the document establishing the fund with archdiocesan assistance. There were some questions from the council.

Under *new business*:

- Parish Director of Development/Fund Raising: Linda LaBorde spoke about the concept and then responded to questions from council members. During this discussion, there were also some comments about changing the method of the raffle. The discussion about such a director was wide ranging with the question of cost effectiveness primary. No conclusion was reached.

During the *pastor's report*:

Father Leonard said that he would be speaking about stewardship including the "money talk"

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at all the Masses the first weekend of November. Larry Kascht will do the time and talent portion of stewardship the following weekend. Marcia Slowinski will help Father draw up a written financial report for the bulletin. Some discussion followed.

Father reported that the canopy project was moving along. The city of Waukesha has now approved the project. The pilings will go in this fall before the ground freezes.

He spoke about the 50th anniversary medallions now at the front entrance of church and said that the golden anniversary process was going well. Besides the "spirit wear" and Christmas ornaments, there will also be St William Wine available in November.

Father said that the power system that affected much of the complex was being worked on "as we speak."

Council members asked about the ramifications of the possibility that Archbishop Dolan might be assigned to New York. Father Leonard said it would be some months before it was even a consideration at the Vatican level since Cardinal Archbishop Egan does not reach the age of 75 until April.

Father said the parish afternoon of reflection on December 3 would be facilitated by Daryl Olszewski with the theme of new evangelization.

There being no other business, John Kennedy moved that the meeting be adjourned, Linda LaBorde seconded and the council concurred.

The council then prayed the Our Father together.

recorded by Pat Knuth