

**St James Parish Family
Parish Pastoral Council**
Meeting Minutes October 25, 2007

Members present – Jim Fatula, Brian Ferber, Carla Gonzales, John Ingram Sr., Nancy Welton, Ken Costigan, Hal Pawlowski, Ralph Wydra, Jim Jones, Maureen Wydra, Peter Carley, and Bud Lucy

Absent - Pam Hester, Pat Schay, and Father Robert.

Please note that all individuals who have the responsibility for action items are identified in **Bold Italicized Underlined Text**.

- **Opening Prayer** - Nancy
 - Nancy opened with a wonderful prayer service at 7:09 and along with the prayer service handed out an article from the Diocese of Milwaukee web site about the spiritual nature of Parish councils.
- **Building Committee progress** – Jim Jones
 - Jim Jones reported briefly about the progress of the building committee. He told us about some of the people and places the committee has visited in their effort to prepare for building our new church. He shared that they are working on ideas as to how they can impress upon the congregation that we need more help from them in order for us to be in a position to build a church building. He shared that they are planning to continue to visit more people and places. The current master plan is 25 years old and while there are a few minor differences it is reasonably accurate but it is in need of being brought up to date. They are looking forward to working with an architect but they are anticipating a fairly substantial cost incurred to revisit the master plan (estimated \$25,000). Father Kiernan (sp?) (one of the individuals they have been in touch with) stated that the cost to build would be approximately \$160-\$180 per square foot to build using alternative construction materials. He described the alternative construction materials but the bottom line was that after all is said and done the church would look the same as if traditional construction materials were used. The ballpark figure is \$3 to \$4 million for a church that would hold approximately 1000 people. Jim Jones stated that with the help of the Holy Spirit it will happen. Jim Fatula asked if the finance council had any plans to try to raise the needed finances to support this effort. Ralph said that the finance council has not yet begun to discuss this as of yet. They are still trying to get a handle on just balancing our current budget. He went on to say that our budget will not support even the initial cost of hiring the architect let alone the whole cost of the church. This is a future agenda item for the finance council and they will be addressing it soon. Much conversation ensued. Many suggestions were made. One idea was that it might be a good idea to have people give witness with respect to what it is we get back from the church in order to try to help more to understand what we get for what we give. Ralph suggested that it would be a good idea for Parish council revisit the Stewardship approach in the parish.
- **Introductions** were made and we gladly welcome Peter Carley as our new Parish Manager and that we look forward to working with him.
- **September 27, 2007 minutes** were accepted with no changes.

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- **Ministry Fair coverage**
 - Peter shared that he has been working with maintenance and will be setting up for the ministry fair using the Jubilee banners and a similar layout to our last ministry fair.
 - We discussed what we should be sharing at our booth. It was mentioned that we currently have two openings. We should also mention that anyone is welcome at any of our meetings even those who are not involved with the council.
 - The following individuals will cover these masses:
 - 4:00 Saturday
 - 7:30 Jim
 - 9:00 Carla
 - 11:00 Nancy and Ken
 - 6:00 Brian
- **Brian** will provide the minutes for the last two months to **Hal** who will add them to the web site in order to meet one of our requirements laid out in our constitution but have not been doing yet. *(added after the meeting by Brian After a review of the Constitution the secretary "will post minutes in a public place at church" Mea culpa, mea culpa, mea maxima culpa; I have never done this. What should we do? Does the web site constitute "a public place"?)*
- **Rummage sale in December?**
 - There will be one on the 9th and 10th of November but we will have one in December.
 - A better approach is planned for approaching volunteers for the rummage ministry. Peter will be making phone calls and making sure that the ministry will receive the support required.
- **Jubilee**
 - The picnic was a great success. John stated that the men's group has volunteered to make this an event that will happen again in the future. He reported that Father stated that he would like to see picnics in the future as it was such a success. All are in agreement that it was a great day and that we should make it a regular in St. James' repertoire of events.
- **Ministry congress**
 - A suggestion was made to revisit this effort. Nancy suggested that we might consider a mass e-mail appeal and John suggested that the personal phone call would be better. There was mention that it has not been successful despite several attempts but we felt that it is worth trying again until it is successful. Improving the communication between the various ministries is very important and this is one way that this could be accomplished.
- **Staff reports**

Maureen

 - Maureen reported that 251 boxes were put together and sent to the military and the money to ship them was provided. We need to thank the parish for that support. **John** will write the thank you and provide it to Bruce by tomorrow (Friday October 26th) for addition to the announcements during this week's masses.
 - Maureen said that Michael John Poirer is coming on December 4th and 5th for our Advent mission
 - Deacon Alan is coming back November 3rd and will be at one mass per week for a while beginning with Saturday 4:00 mass and rotating through the various masses.
 - November 18th the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be coming to the parish from 7:15 AM until 12:30 PM.

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- **Staff reports** (continued)
 - The new church building will not happen for some time nevertheless our carpeting is in need of replacement soon. At the request of staff carpet companies have been providing estimate for carpet squares for the church body and broadloom in the chapel area (as squares cannot be used on stairs).
 - Carla expressed concerned that we should be starting to work on the Valentine's dinner ASAP. Maureen reported that the Knights are discussing this but **Ken** was asked to bring it up at the next business meeting.
 - Maureen also reported that Gemma will co-chair the festival along with Sue Klima next year. Ralph reported that the finance council was asked to provide budgets for each booth for the festival next year. Those who run booths will be held responsible to maintain them within budget. Apparently there were issues in the past with some booths working outside the budget which adversely affected the bottom line.
- **Follow up on "breakfast with the Pastor"**
 - The first welcoming mass for new parishioners is this Sunday at the 9:00 AM mass. We will have a welcoming mass for new parishioners in some form each month. According to Maureen, Father Robert said that he will preside for each of these masses.
- **Follow up phone calls to new parishioners**
 - Carolyn has been making these calls and is very excited about the responses.
- **Level and type of involvement of St. James with VICaP/Beatitude Center DOAR (Developing Older Adult Resources)**

Hal

 - Hal wanted us to be aware that we donate cash to the Beatitude Center along with having several volunteers involved. He went on to say that this is an awesome activity and feels that we as a parish should support it. They are in need of volunteers to just visit with people and/or take them places.
- **Fathers challenge, needed items for completion** -

Brian

 - (postponed until a future date when Father is available)
- **Words from Fr Robert** (postponed until a future date when Father is available)
- **Pope's comments** (postponed until a future date when Father is available)
- Our next meeting will be November 15th at the church
- John shared that November 3rd will be a mini picnic offered amongst the Men's Group and the Circle of Sisters and maybe some others. Maureen reminded them that they needed to submit the facility request to accommodate this.
- Opening Prayer for next meeting will be done by **Brian**
- **Jim** will send out a spreadsheet to determine the most appropriate meeting date for our next working session
- Nancy asked us **all** to take the time to read the handout she provided in an effort to remind us what our goal and focus as a Parish Pastoral Council should be.
- **Closing prayer** was offered up by Carla at 9:15 and after the prayer all expressed our appreciation to Carla and Nick opening their home to us for this meeting.