

St. Catherine Laboure Catholic Church Parish Council Meeting

December 14, 2009

Parish Council Monthly Meeting Called to order by Michael Bulls, Chairman.
Members in attendance: Fr. Terry, Deacon John Burke, David Jones, Vice-Chair,
Joanne Mauro, Secretary, Randy Collins, Sharon Pruitt, Josie Perez
Decorating Committee- Cynthia Newbury, Ladies Guild- Chris Bulls

OPENING PRAYER

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

- Next Council Meeting – Monday, January

Minutes:

- Sign off on Oct. 8th, 2009 Council Meeting minutes.
- Correction to names on November Minutes.
- Motion made and seconded to approve and sign off on Nov. 12th, 2009 Council Meeting. Will be posted on bulletin board and on web.

General Information and Announcements:

- Michael Bulls thanks anyone associated with the Dedication service.
- Thanks to Ray Shapland, John Rudio and others associated with the flag raising.
- Deacon John states that there are over 200 registered families now.
- Fr. Terry states that there were about 130 families before the move.
- Kathy Bryson has passed. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.
- Mary Louise Eterno is still in need of our prayers.
- Michael asks about the process involved with keeping names on and/or removing names from the Sick List. Deacon John states that people tell him and/or Karen Derochers, and Eva Koscher. Betty Martin states that some parishes have a policy that names stay on for a month and then come off. Fr. Terry states he is thinking of a policy. Michael will approach the Ladies Guild and Eva Koscher of the bereavement Committee with the idea. Deacon John will talk to Karen.
- Congratulations to Karen Derochers on being named Woman of the Year!!
- Discussion about who elects Youth of the Year. Decision made for Michael Bulls to approach Pam Lister about Youth of the Year.
- How the Woman of the Year is elected was discussed. Deacon John states that it takes place by the Ladies Guild at the Cookie Swap. Cynthia Newbury states that it has happened for years this way. Joanne states that it was not known that the election would take place then. Randy Collins would like to see a more democratic process. Deacon John says in other Parishes he has seen the Ladies Guild put a number of candidates up for nomination. The Parish is asked to vote on a given weekend. Discussion that we may work on procedures for this and the Youth of the Year for next year. Michael Bulls states that as we grow we improve our procedures.
- Deacon John leaves the meeting at this point.

OLD BUSINESS

Bulletin Boards:

- Ladies Guild will purchase 2 bulletin boards, one for CCD, one for Ladies Guild.
- Cynthia will help with this and asks that it be pushed to next year.
- David Boring has hung the wood rack outside Karen's office – It looks great!
- Decorating Committee, Betty Martin, and others have hung the priests pictures – they look great.
- Betty Martin has additional frames for use for Sister Catherine and Bishop Zarama.
- Joanne states that Tyna Duckett has a photo of the Bishop that may be something we want to look at.

Signs:

- Door plaques – Denise Boring is working on these.
- Office/Entrance sign was discussed. Fr. Terry wants something that will go in the Ground, in the corner of the sidewalk and point to the right. Michael asks who will take on this? Cynthia will look for a catalogue that has signs.
- Cynthia states that David Boring states that all the door name signs are done.
- Cynthia would like to make a reflective frame around the stick-in-the-ground sign at the roadside so that it shows up better.
- Michael states that the County is ok with this sign staying up all week.
- Betty Martin states that she has talked to a County Commissioner about putting a sign up on the street. She will follow-up on this.
- Someone from Catholic Construction has said there is no real need for Evacuation signs in the classrooms. We will file the signs with Karen. Also – the teachers should have a Fire drill once a year or quarter. Cynthia states that the main concern is that the children have a meeting spot to go to outside.

Easels:

- Cynthia has purchased the easels at a cost of \$40.00 each. They look great!

Benches:

- We have benches in the store room. Cynthia states that no decision has been made yet on whether or not to use them.

Advertising:

- Betty Martin states it will cost \$60.00 for a year to have a small ad inserted in the local papers' group advertisement section. Motion approved to spend the \$55.00 for this ad (January is free). Betty will get this information to Karen.
- There is also a church section for \$5.00 per week.
- Betty Martin states that our ad is not being included in Banks County papers. She has spoken with someone at the paper and they are looking into the reason.
- Randy Collins asks if the phone directory has been updated. It should be, based on when the phone was ordered, states Michael.

- Michael will look into whether we are in the Yellow Pages.
- MapQuest has not been updated yet.
- Fr. Terry will look into getting us listed on MassTimes.org
- Betty Martin recommends we pay for additional advertising in all or some of the 6 papers that cover our area at special times only. Fr. states we should concentrate on Jackson, Banks County.
- Betty has put in an ad for the papers for Christmas Masses.
- David Jones asks if there is a question on the registration such as, "Where did you hear of us?"
- Michael will look into putting a line drawing map together for cards to hand out.

Knights of Columbus:

- Michael asks if anything has happened with joining or forming a Round Table with the Knights.
- Michael recommends we start with a Men's Club but it will require someone to step forward. John Perkarske recommends putting something in the bulletin to see if anyone is interested.
- In January we will discuss a date in February to hold a meeting for all the men who may be interested.

Key Distribution:

- Michael will help Karen to sort out who has the correct key.

AED

- Fr. Terry has found quotes starting at \$1500.00. We will not purchase one at this time.

RCIA and CCD

- Cynthia states that Dorine----- is taking care of this.
- David will check with Angie about the registration forms including a place for parents to list any medical concerns the CCD teacher needs to be aware of.

Wells Petras:

- Michael will talk with Karen about the copy of his insurance.
- We need to know where Deacon John is in his plans to work with Mr. Petras on the Bereavement Committee.

FINANCE & BUILDING

- Motion made and carried last month to authorize spending approximately \$1000.00 for additional curbing. This price will be closer to \$2000.00
- A flume has to be constructed into the pond. The fence will be completed after that.
- Steve met with someone on Monday to discuss how to absorb sound in the Narthex. A decision will be made after the first of the year. Fr. Terry states that

we may need to use the company they are talking with to design what it may look like.

- Dave Boring made 4 crosses out of wood to place on the building for the Dedication. Thank you. They look great.
- Michael states that we still owe Beaco ?? about \$50,000. We are at \$1,013,000??, for the construction – about \$90,000 more than we originally agreed to. (We originally planned on \$1.3 Million?)
- The State St. property will be appraised by the end of the week.
- The Woods Bridge property is listed at \$190,000.
- Randy Collins asks can we look at reducing the price of Woods Bridge property. It is 13-14 acres.
- Per a note to Fr. Terry: Steve Matthews would like to discuss building a rectory at Woods Bridge. Fr. Terry states that building a rectory will be more costly than buying a house already built.
- Randy asks why we can't look at building on the property at the new site. Fr. Terry would like to see a rectory within 1 to 5 miles from the church.
- Finance Committee is putting together a portfolio of all the property the church owns.
- Portico addition was discussed. We estimated \$10,000 for this project, but it will cost closer to \$30,000. This would go from the side door to the near curb of the drive-through. The Portico was part of the original project. For cost reasons it was taken off the project. According to Fr. Terry, the Finance Council recommended to go forward with the project. Sharon Pruitt says the Finance Committee decided to bring to the Council the decision of whether or not to put the portico back on the building project. Steve Matthews says we would have to get Jackson County approval to build it. Advantages to doing it now rather than waiting are that it would be easier to match colors, roofing, styles, etc and that it can be put on the current project bid and we wouldn't have to get additional bonds, bids, insurance.
 - Advantages of having a portico are it offers protection from the weather.
 - Disadvantages are the possible traffic hazards created by people loading and unloading.
 - Question came up of whether the portico would make the church more attractive to the elderly population. Response that the portico would be abused by others – the elderly would not have a chance to use it.
 - John Perkarske comments that people could say that we spent unwisely.
 - Betty Martin states that in a survey of parishioners before the building started, the people listed a portico as the second or third item they wanted.
 - Motion made and seconded on whether or not to spend estimated \$28,000 to build a portico. Vote of 5 against building, 0 for building and 1 abstention.
 - Recommendation that a note be put in the bulletin and possibly Fr. Terry talk to those who earmarked donations for a portico.

- Fr. Terry asked the Dean how we go about becoming a Parish. The pastor petitions the dean to become a parish and the dean would put together a committee to evaluate the mission. Probably 85% of those questions will be about finances. The other main item would be to either have a rectory or be prepared to get one. Fr. Terry recommends we put aside at least the down payment towards a rectory and pay more on the loan interest. He believes that by June he will be ready to petition the Diocese for Parish status and a decision possibly by early 2011.
- Fr. Terry states there are 3 possible options for St. Mary's if we become a Parish:
 - Try to support a priest by themselves
 - Possibly partner with a church and become a mission.
 - A semi-retired priest will serve them.
 - There may be other options.
- Father Terry recounts the Finance Committee meeting decisions which include: a quarterly report to be started; a back-up system for the computers will be installed; a discussion of term limits for finance committee council members, (there are no term limits for Finance Committee in Bylaws); portico discussion; and possibility of purchasing a rectory. Fr. Terry would like to have a reserve of rectory down-payment and an extra \$10,000 for unexpected costs. Estimating the rectory will cost \$200,000. \$50,000 will need to be put aside as a down-payment.

Wish List:

- The Wish List will be kept private and people wishing to contribute can contact Karen, Deacon John or Fr. Terry. Michael will give Karen and Deacon John the current wish list.

Audio Issues:

- The laueliers are not working right. Fr. Terry will work with them this week.
- No report from Dave Boring about the mic with a buzz in it or what the meeting with the audio person resulted in, or if the music department assigned someone to take care of the audio.

New Business:

- **Address by Juliatt**
- Would like to hold a 12-week "Community Service" class one hour a week to discuss healthy nutrition.
- She holds an MS in Nutrition
- Participants will pay \$29.00 to attend. \$10.00 goes to the church, \$4.00 goes for making copies; remainder goes to the top 3 "Biggest Losers"
- Each week includes a weigh-in and a ½ hour topic.
- Affiliated with Herbal Life
- Open to all.
- Would like 20 people per 12-week session.
- Juliatt will advertise.

- Fr. States that St. Mary's has a Weight Watchers program which brings in \$75.00 each week for the church. This program would bring in \$10 per person per 12 weeks.
- Fr. Terry will check with St. Mary's about any possible liability issues. This falls under a church-run program and church liability should cover this.
- Michael states that he would like to see the church doing more of this type of community awareness programs and being a part of the larger community.
- Fr. states we are ready for a vote.
- Motion made and unanimously approved to allow this.
- Decision to start at 6:30pm on Thursday 7th January.
- Juliatt will work with Karen to put a notice in the bulletin.
- Discussion after the vote on some concerns which are addressed by Michael stating this will be a trial. We'll see how this goes before we bring in any other groups.
- Pam Lister has a hope chest. Could this be offered as a place to collect food for the food bank. Joanne will ask Pam for a digital photo.

Special Collections and Outreach Ministries

- Cynthia states that there was \$70.00 in the candle stands. Can future candle stand collections be added to the Benevolence Fund? Fr. Terry states that it could.
- Randy asks that we make sure to have the Second Collection listed each week in the bulletin. Fr. Terry will make sure Denise has the 2010 list of second collections.
- Michael states that we hope to do a better job of outreach next year. This year we had so many things going on.

Volunteers

- Michael states that we would like to start a generic volunteer list to capture those offering to help.
- Fr. Terry states that a Time and Talent – Ministry Fair event in early spring will be the time to capture these Names. He would like to have a list of Ministries and Organizations and other needs the parish has for this event. This event will also be a time to ask if someone has a special skill/talent.

Locking Mailbox at the Church

- Karen has asked if we can have a mailbox at the property. Fr. Terry states that it would be more convenient.
- Michael asks where it would be placed.
- Michael will check with the Jefferson Post Office about what options we have and at what cost.

CLOSING PRAYER

- Meeting adjourned 9:25pm.