

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES - TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2015 7:00PM

1. CURRENT PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS: President - Arlene Korte, Vice-President - Dave Kassen, Secretary - Geri Varel

2. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr. Jack, Deacon Glenn, Arlene Korte, Dave Kassen, Geri Varel, Kathy Gonsalves, Diana Jansen, Virgil Jansen, Clay Lynch, Tina Tonnies & Trustee Pete Toennies.

3. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Arentsen and Jan Mank

4. OTHER ATTENDEES: None

5. OPENING: Fr. Jack opened the meeting with a prayer.

6. MINUTES FROM JUNE MEETING: The minutes from the June 9, 2015, meeting were approved by council members via email and published to the congregation on July 18-19, 2015. A request was made by the parish council secretary that all recipients of the parish council draft minutes should please acknowledge receipt of the minutes even if no changes are noted.

7. HISPANIC MINISTRY: No report.

8. PARISH LIFE:

- Parish Council Member Elections: The council welcomed Clay Lynch as the newest member of the Parish Council. The council also expressed appreciation to the two men who allowed their names to be on the ballot for this year's election. Bud Jansen and Clay Lynch came forth to fill one vacancy on the parish council. Elections were held at both masses on July 18-19, 2015. Clay Lynch received 74 votes. Bud Jansen received 44 votes. Thanks to Bud for his willingness to serve.
- Parish Council Officer Elections: Election of officers was conducted at the meeting. The new officers for 2015-2016 are
President - Arlene Korte
Vice President - Dave Kassen
Secretary - Geri Varel

9. FINANCE: The financial reports for June and July were reviewed and accepted. The Parish Financial Report and the Picnic Report will be distributed via email to those who have provided an email address to the parish secretary. Extra copies will be available in church and on the porch of the parish house. Any parishioner who would like to receive parish information via email can contact the parish secretary (Jeanne) to have an email address added to the parish email list.

10. PARISH ADMINISTRATION: Nothing to report.

11. LITURGY:

- Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held in June 2015. Approximately 50 children participated. Thanks to the KC's for providing funding for the event.
- Summer Bible Study - The final class was held at St. George on Aug 17. The Fall session will begin in Oct at St. Damian.

12. CATECHETICAL MINISTRY DIRECTOR REPORT:

- The National Diocesan Youth Conference will be held in November 2015.
- Faith Formation (FF): The fee for FF is \$50 per child with a maximum fee of \$100 per family.
- RCIA is started in New Baden.
- All adults who are involved with teaching, instructing, or working with parish children during the 2015-2016 school year are required to complete the Diocesan Child Protection Training online. Deacon Glenn will send the link to all FF teachers and the youth choir musician/director.
- Faith Formation begins on Wed, Aug 19. The first mass with the school children will be Fri, Aug 21 at 7:45am.
- Two Mater Dei Students (Kaitlyn Harpstrite and Zach Kalmer) will assist with instructing FF classes and going to mass.
- An Open House for all FF teachers will be held at Mater Dei on Aug 22, from 9:00am to Noon.
- The North Central Vicariate meeting was held on Aug 11 at St. Ann's in Nashville.

13. HOLY NAME & ALTAR SODALITY REPORTS:

- 8 Catalpa Trees: The trees were taken down by Campbell Tree Service. The bill was received and paid (the Parish and Holy Names each paid half, \$1720.00 each)
- Concrete Foundations at the Cemetery: It was reported that Lager Monument has a tombstone ready to be placed in the Cremains Section of the cemetery (southeast corner). It was also reported that as soon as the weather permits, there are plans for the Holy Name to pour concrete foundations in the cremains section as well as the regular section of the cemetery. Dave Kassen will contact Curt Haselhorst/Holy Name President to see if there is a proposed date on the Holy Name schedule.

14. BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Stained Glass Protectors and Repaired Stained Glass: The project is complete and bill is paid. It was brought to the council's attention that the protectors are standard size with 3 panes; however, some of the windows have more than 3 panes, which makes them look different. It was determined that if Precision Glass would have custom-made the coverings to match each window individually, it would have been more expensive and the windows still would not match. A request was made to ask Jeanne what kind of warranty Precision Glass submitted with the protectors.
- Church and Rectory Steps Repair: Repair and sealing of rectory steps, church steps and sacristy steps was completed. Awaiting an invoice from Hemker Resurfacing. It was determined that the side church entrance was not repaired. Arlene will contact Hemker and ask them to take a look at the side handicap entrance steps when they come to town to finish another job.
- Replace Upstairs Rectory Flooring: Flooring is complete in the hallway, southwest bedroom & bathroom and northeast bedroom & bathroom. Thanks to Virgil Jansen for overseeing and helping to complete this project.
- Cleaning of Gym Ceiling and Light Fixtures: Completed by Ceiling Clean International (St. Louis) for \$2887.00. It looks great! The parish received a check for the cleaning from the PTO (\$250.00) and the Ladies Sodality (\$750.00). The remaining balance was paid by the parish.
- A group of ladies cleaned and washed curtains in the upstairs rooms of the rectory. Thanks to Arlene for overseeing this project.
- Water Damage in the Rectory: Engelmann Construction previously repaired a gutter and the copula; however, during the most recent heavy rain, it was discovered that water is seeping through somewhere making the walls in the furnace closet and quilt room wet to the touch and allowing the wall covering to peel off. Mold is also forming. A recommendation was made to have a tuckpointing/sealant company look at the damage to determine where the water is coming through and obtain bids to repair the leaking. The council members viewed the damage after the meeting.

15. OLD BUSINESS:

- Joint Parish Directory: Lifetouch Photography began taking family and individual photos on Aug 6-8 in the gym. Everything went very well. Home delivery of the photo orders will be happening very soon. The directories will be shipped at a later date when all photos are completed. It is not too late for parishioners to schedule an appointment to have their photo taken. Remaining dates are Aug 25-26 and Sept 11-12 at the St. Damian Gym. Add'l dates are available at the St. Bernard Parish Center in Albers on Aug 27-29 and Sept 8-10. Photos may be taken at either parish. If you have a family or individual photo taken, you will receive a free 8X10 photo and a free directory. If you cannot make any of the specified dates, parishioners may also submit a snapshot or photo via email to gmv818@charter.net or via regular mail to Geri Varel, 106 N. Church St., Damiansville IL 62215 along with \$10 to pay for a directory book. If you decide to submit a photo, please make sure your photo is sent before Sept 12. We are hoping for 100% participation and we are on our way to that mark! Check the parish website at www.stbernardandstdamian.org to schedule your appointment today! If you do not have access to a computer, you can contact Geri Varel at 248-5223 and she can schedule an appointment for you. Also note that family and friends may also have their photos taken even if they are not parishioners at St. Damian or St. Bernard. They will also receive a free 8x10 photo and a free directory but their photo will not be printed in the directory. Having a directory will make it easier to match names to faces when we see each other at various events in both parishes.

16. NEW BUSINESS:

- Policy for Use of the Tables and Chairs in the Gym: It was brought to the council's attention that the policy for using the tables and chairs stored in the gym was unclear. **It was reiterated that the policy for use of the white tables and metal chairs is as follows: The white tables and metal chairs may be used when renting/using the gym or annex for an event; however, no tables or chairs will be loaned out to any individual/group or removed from the parish property.** A recommendation was made to see if Jeanne has a record of how many white tables were purchased in the past few years so an accurate inventory count can be maintained. A recommendation was also made to find out if there is a record of the last time that the chairs were painted. Answers will be reported at the October meeting.
- Collecting Aluminum Cans: The aluminum cans from this year's picnic were collected by a small group of parishioners who are going on a Mission Trip to Honduras in October 2015. The money will be used to buy things for children & adults in Honduras. A suggestion was made to ask the Faith Formation kids if they would like to pick up the cans after the picnic in 2016, and the money would be designated for use by the Faith Formation Program. This effort would require some adult leadership and oversight.

17. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Update regarding new Joint-Parish Directory (Geri)
- Report on repair of water damage to the closet and quilt room upstairs (Virgil)
- Report on number of white tables purchased. Report on when chairs were last painted (Jeanne)
- Follow-up on repair of side entrance steps (Arlene or Dave)
- Follow-up regarding concrete foundations at cemetery (Dave)

18. NEXT MEETING: Next parish council meeting is scheduled for Tues, October 13, 2015 at 7:00pm in the parish meeting room.

19. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

As always, all parish council meetings are open to the public. Please inform the parish secretary (588-4323 or 979-5933) if you would like to speak to a topic or voice a concern so it can be added to the agenda.