

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, June 10, 2014 7:00pm

1. CURRENT PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS FOR 2013-2014 ARE: President – Arlene Korte;
Vice President – Bob Innes; Secretary – Geri Varell

2. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr. Jack, Deacon Glenn, Arlene Korte, Diana Jansen, Kathy Gonsalves, Tina Tonnie, Virgil Jansen, Gary Arentsen, Dave Kassen & Geri Varell

3. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Innes & Jan Mank, PC Trustee.

4. OTHER ATTENDEES: Pete Toennies, PC Trustee

5. OPENING: Arlene opened the meeting with a group prayer

6. MINUTES FROM APRIL MEETING: The minutes of the April 8, 2014, meeting were approved via email and published to the parishioners weekend of 26-27 April 2014.

7. HISPANIC MINISTRY: No report.

8. PARISH LIFE:

- Kevin Arentsen volunteered to serve as the St. Damian Parish Representative on the Mater Dei Board.

9. FINANCE:

- The general financial reports were reviewed. The finance reports were accepted.
- Capital Campaign: The Capital Campaign Fund is officially closed. Remaining balance is \$21,425.00. The council discussed best use of these funds. Recommendation made to seek bids for protective covering for the stained glass windows. Arlene will get some quotes.

10. PARISH ADMINISTRATION:

- Election of Parish Council Officers: The election of new officers for 2014-2015 is pending finalization due to absence of one of the current officers. This item will be revisited during the August meeting.
- Request was made to allow Jeanne to have one centrally located office where she can manage office operations for St. Damian/St. Bernard/St. George in a more efficient manner. Centralized office space will become available in New Baden when the new Wesclin H S is completed and the Students at St. George School vacate their current facilities. Jeanne's phone number would remain as is (248-5134). Anyone who needs to talk to or meet Jeanne in person can make an appointment with her and she will return to St. Damian rectory whenever she is needed there. The move was approved.

11. LITURGY:

- Summer mass schedule will be Mon & Fri at St. Damian at 8:00am. Tues & Thurs at St. Bernard at 8:00am..

12. CATECHETICAL MINISTRY DIRECTOR REPORT: (aka Deacon Glenn)

- CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY:

- No report

- FAITH FORMATION (FF) PROGRAM:

- Registrations for 2014-15 school year are still being accepted. All teachers from the previous year will be returning to the FF program in addition to 3 students from Mater Dei. Thanks to all teachers who faithfully serve the parish and the FF Program.

- ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Summer session will begin on June 16.

13. HOLY NAME & ALTAR SODALITY REPORTS:

- **Holy Name Sodality:** It was reported that the Holy Name will assist with labor whenever a new concrete pad needs to be poured at the cemetery and will contribute funds on an as-needed basis.
- It was reported that the Holy Name accepted the new cemetery rules and regulations as written.
- It was reported that the Holy Name discussed bids to asphalt or concrete the church parking lot. Feasibility was questioned. Item tabled until more information is provided.
- **Altar Sodality:** The Altar Sodality will donate funds to replace the flooring in both sacristies in church. The work will commence in June.

14. OLD BUSINESS:

- **Fr. Jack's 25th Anniversary:** Event was a huge success. Thanks to all in both parishes who set up, prepared food, served, brought desserts, cleaned up, assisted at Mass or helped out in any other way to make Fr. Jack's anniversary a memorable event.
- **New Cemetery Rules and Regulations:** The Rules and Regulations will remain as written effective Feb 2014. Item closed. The Parish will follow up with Moss & Hempen Funeral Homes to discuss billing procedures.
- Ed Kramer attended a seminar regarding Cemetery topics. A report will be available at the next parish council meeting.
- **Re-Do Parking Lot:** Feasibility of the project is still questionable since only 6-12 cars normally park in the lot. The majority of vehicles park along the main street and side streets. These areas will continue to be oiled and chipped. It appears that asphalt may be the more cost effective solution. It was voted to table the topic until more research is complete.

15. NEW BUSINESS:

- Rectory Flooring:

Arlene & Diana will seek bids for replacement flooring upstairs in the rectory. The carpeting is very old. Particles of the padding are coming through the carpeting when it is vacuumed and it has a very bad odor.

- Grave Digging:

Recommendation made to require grave diggers to have insurance to cover any damages that may occur to land or property due to negligence, equipment malfunction, or equipment operator error. Additional information required regarding who does this type of work in other parish cemeteries. Item tabled until next meeting.

- Dining Room Chairs:

There is a need for 6 used dining room chairs in the rectory. Over time, the existing old chairs have broken or are in desperate need of repair. Please keep your eyes open for used chairs at garage sales or rummage sales. If anyone has any dining room chairs they want to get rid of, please contact any parish council member or the church office.

- Eyesore Across the Street:

The Village Board has approached the owner of the old tavern property across the street from church, about hazards surrounding the property. The village will meet with an attorney in June to discuss options. Item tabled until next meeting.

- Mass Announcements:

A recommendation was made to only announce topics/items that are not printed in the bulletin. The council agreed that deleting redundant/duplicate announcements was a good idea and it would also save time. Fr. Jack will discuss this item with Deacon Glenn.

16. BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- Relocation of the Priest Plaques from the gym annex to the church is still being considered. The wall space above & below the cry room on the exterior wall is being considered. Pete and Ed will look at feasibility.
- Dave Kassen will contact Hemker about repairing the front steps of the rectory as well as the front steps of the church.
- Replacement of the 3 upper cabinets in the rectory kitchen (due to damage caused by fire on the stove) is pending. The Hispanic community will be asked to share the cost of materials. The new range hood will also be installed after the cabinets are completed/installed.

17. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Finalize Parish Council Elections for 2014-15 term.
- Feedback from Ed Kramer regarding attendance at recent Cemetery meeting.
- Discuss feasibility & costs for replacing parking lot (concrete or asphalt).
- Discuss bids for replacing upstairs flooring in rectory.
- Discuss bids for stained glass protectors.
- Discuss feedback regarding dining room chairs.
- Update on repair of rectory steps and front church step (Hemker)
- Update on relocation of memorial plaques.
- Update on Sacristy flooring installation.
- Update from Village on property across the street.
- Update regarding new Treasurer for Damiansville School
- Picnic Results
- Any new topics that occur between now and August meeting.

18. ADJOURN: Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

19. NEXT MEETING: The next parish council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 12, 2014, at 7:00pm in the parish meeting room.

**As always, parish council meetings are open to the public.
Please inform the parish secretary (248-5134) if you
would like to speak to a topic or voice a concern, so
it can be added to the agenda.**