

**ST. DAMIAN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018 7:00 PM**

1. **2018-2019 PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS:** President - Clay Lynch,
Vice President - JoAnn Koerkenmeier, Secretary - Anita Arentsen
2. **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Fr. Anthony, Anita Arentsen, Tina Tonnie, Gwen Toennies
Al Varel, Dale Koch, Clay Lynch, Ex-officio members: Deacon Glen Netemeyer, Virgil Jansen,
Arlene Korte, Sr. Ellen Orf and Fermin Herrera
3. **COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bill Innes, JoAnn Koerkenmeier, and Denise Luitjohan
4. **OTHER ATTENDEES:**
5. **OPENING:** Fr. Anthony opened the meeting with a prayer.
6. **MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 17, 2018 MEETING:** The minutes from the previous meeting were
approved by council members via email and published to the congregation.
7. **PARISH LIFE:** Deacon Glenn reported the Youth Ministry would be going to Holiday World next Tues.
(June 26th).
Sr. Ellen and Fermin Herrera inquired about the interest in celebrating the Feast of St. Damian and
St. Cosmos. They would like to have a joint festival with the Hispanic Ministry. It was decided to set a
date for Sat. Sept. 23 and form a committee to organize the event.
8. **PARISH ADMINISTRATION:** Deacon Glenn informed the council we are in need of another Religion
teacher. The hours are 7:15 to 8:30 M-F but Mon. and Wed. are mass days and they are willing to
work with whoever might be interested to accommodate their schedule.
9. **LITURGY:** Our picnic mass will be Sat. July 14 at 4:30 with music from Polka Connection,
the Sunday mass will be at its usual 8:30 time.
10. **HISPANIC MINISTRY:** Sr. Ellen briefed the council on the activities of the Hispanic Ministry reporting
Baptisms(2), Graduations(2), Confirmations(4), First Communions(3), Baccalaureate, an Ordination
and Quineanera. She remains busy with other meetings and is helping with scholarship assistance
and preparing a family for several different sacraments.
Sr. Ellen will be on retreat from July 16-22 and will be on vacation from July 29-Aug. 4
11. **BUILDING & MAINTENANCE:** Al Varel reported the trees in the cemetery are down and the
foundation is poured for the flag pole. The plan is to do some weed eating and power wash the fencing
around the cemetery this Sat. during the parish work day. He also reported pouring the concrete for
several walkways and laying the foundation for additional concrete (between the gym and church) which
will also be poured Sat. He mentioned the generosity of Dave Kassen allowing the parish to borrow his
heavy equipment stating it can be very costly to rent this sort of equipment, not to mention the operation
fees. **THE GENEROSITY OF ALL IS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!** Al stated the school is donating
1000.00 to the concrete project.

Pete Toennies was contacted in regard to the handicap railing up to the altar and this project is in the
works.

The Precision Glass Co. was contacted in regard to the cracks in some of the church windows and the
company took full blame stating they substituted hard shims for soft. After a thorough inspection (by the
company) they actually found additional cracks in other windows and assured us they would replace any
of the damaged windows.

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE: (continued) Gwen Toennies reported being contacted by a parishioner stating they were disappointed in the appearance of the cemetery. She viewed the cemetery grounds and was also disappointed by the weeds etc. After some discussion it was decided to see how things look after the work day and how well they will be maintained. Several council members agreed it's a big job to keep all the tombstones trimmed and weeds out of the landscaping. It was mentioned to possibly hire a maintenance company but this would be after reevaluation the time the custodian puts into taking care of the cemetery as this is part of his job.

Virgil Jansen reported water issues in Sister Ellen's bathroom that needed to be addressed. Clarence Goebel has done plumbing work in the rectory before and would be contacted to look into the matter.

The quilt room in the upstairs rectory is also in need of some plaster and painting, Al Varel volunteered to follow up on this.

12. HOLY NAME AND ALTAR SODALITY: A report from the Holy Name indicated a profit of \$13,574.53 from the Wurstmarkt.

13. OLD BUSINESS:

14. NEW BUSINESS: Arlene Korte reported the school is painting the gym (Aug or Sept) BUT not the kitchen. She mentioned the need for the kitchen to be painted as well. After some discussion Al Varel made a motion to have the Parish, as well as the Holy Name and Ladies Sodality chip-in for this project. The council voted and it was approved to move forward. Al stated he would get some bids for the project.

15. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: Update on the maintenance projects of the church property including: completion of concrete work, bids for painting the gym kitchen, follow-up on water issues in Sisters bathroom and work in the quilt room of the Rectory. Celebration of St. Damian and St. Cosmos

16. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM Fr. Anthony closed with a prayer.

17. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 21, 2018

Minutes taken by Anita Arentsen

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.