

**ST. DAMIAN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2019 7:00 PM**

**1. 2019-20 PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS:** President - Clay Lynch, Vice President - JoAnn Koerkenmeier, Secretary - Denise Luitjohan

**2. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Fr. Anthony, Clay Lynch, Al Varel, Gwen Toennies, Dale Koch, JoAnn Koerkenmeier, Kay Toennies, Garry Kalmer and Denise Luitjohan. Ex-officio members: Deacon Kevin Templin, Virgil Jansen, Arlene Korte, and Sr. Ellen Orf

**3. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mech Toennies

**4. OTHER ATTENDEES:** Bud Jansen, Francis Billhartz, Alice Toennies

**5. OPENING:** Father Anthony opened the meeting with a prayer.

**6. Guests attending were addressed first.**

Alice Toennies expressed her concern of the Deacons no longer helping/officiating at the weekend Masses, this has already been resolved and the Deacon(s) will be at all Masses on the weekends.

Francis Billhartz addressed an issue regarding the cemetery and if parishioners should be allowed to designate when they purchase a plot of where it would be located. This concern was due to a recent funeral where a parishioner's plot was not placed in the next available plot. This will be discussed at the next cemetery committee meeting. These results will be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Bud Jansen wanted to verify the wording on the documents that granted permission from the Diocese for the Village to acquire the small parcel of land in exchange for relocating the Parish water lines. Mr. Jansen was concerned that the piece of land was not what the Village had asked for. The wording was reviewed and all agreed that this does give the Village the land that was requested.

**7. PARISH LIFE / LITURGY:** Deacon Kevin reported on CYM and that the VBS was held on Sunday August 4th and was attended by 26 students. Liturgy Meeting is going to be held in early October. Deacon Kevin has received his certification and can now preach at the weekend Masses.

**8. HISPANIC MINISTRY:** St. Damian's Feast Family Day is being planned for 9/22. Potluck and games similar to the previous years celebration. Games discussed were Bingo, Trivia and other table games. A committee will be formed to finalize the plans, Sister Ellen will head the committee. Sr. Ellen and the Hispanic's are having a clothing sale on October 25, 26, and 27 in the gym.

**9. BUILDING & MAINTENANCE:** The land that was requested by the Village was approved by the Diocese and the Approved resolution letter was available for all council members. The cleaning of Parish House basement has started. Al proposed that a date be set for a Saturday clean-up. Oct 19th at 8:00 was agreed upon and this will be put into the bulletin when it gets closer to that date.

**10. HOLY NAME AND ALTAR SODALITY:**

**11. OLD BUSINESS:** The Parish phone directory similar to a “Buzz Book” was tabled for now.

**12. NEW BUSINESS:** The Picnic Report was available for all council members. Father asked that next year’s Mass time be at 4:00 P.M. Since Al Varel is also on the Cemetery committee he asked who has the final say if changes are made to the guidelines. It was agreed that the Cemetery committee has the final say but the Parish Council must be notified of any changes.

**13. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** Update from Cemetery committee. Basement cleaning update.

**14. ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned and Fr. Anthony closed with a prayer.

**15. NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, October 15, 2019.

**Minutes taken by Denise Luitjohan**

**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**