

St. Francis Xavier Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2009

Present: Father Hennen, Jim Bischoff, Kelly Boyle, Randy Bunting, Val Enter, Debbie Gladitsch, Jack Kniprath, Susan Kohls, Anne Lambrecht, Bob Pahl, Tim Stanoch, Pat Whalen, Kim Zumbusch

Prayer: Led by Debbie Gladitsch

Approval of October minutes: Minutes were approved by members via e-mail.

Open mic/e-mails/phone calls:

- Val expressed concern about how people new to the area are supposed to find the parish office. Susan reported that a sign with directions to the parish office has been ordered and will be placed at the "in town" location.
- Jack asked about the age of the boiler in the church. There is no controlling the temperature in the church. Once the boiler is turned on, it stays on until there is warm weather.
- Discussion centered around comments made by parents of faith formation students concerning quizzes on the homily. Some feel their children are being punished because they do not get to Mass on the weekend. Contrary to rumors, there is no ultimatum that students who do not pass the quizzes will not move on through the faith formation program. On the positive side, more parents of both school and faith formation students are coming to the weekend Masses.
- The question of hand sanitizers at the back of the church was brought up. It was decided that \$6 for a large bottle of hand sanitizer is an inexpensive way to say we care.

Discussion of Committee Reports:

Since the committee reports are not being turned in by e-mail before the meeting, the council will revert to each committee representative giving a short oral report at the parish council meeting.

AFFC: Pat Whalen

Twenty-three parish members will be attending the Alpha Holy Spirit weekend at Oak Ridge Conference Center in Chaska on the weekend of Nov. 21/22.

Love Inc.: Father Hennen

Six denominations have committed to beginning Love, Inc. in Buffalo. An organizational meeting was held November 6th and 7th at the Evangelical Free Church. A financial commitment from each of the six denominations involved will be required. Father suggested that STFX tithe a certain percent of income to Love, Inc. He will bring it up to the finance council.

Finance Council: Jim Bischoff

The parish is now averaging \$10,000 per week in offering envelopes. Father asked if printing the difference (Actual-Budget) in the bulletin each week gives a false sense of security and discourages people from giving. Even though we are meeting our budget numbers with weekly contributions, we are not meeting our mortgage commitment. We are now using reserve money allocated for mortgage payments to cover our mortgage obligations. It was concluded that a more realistic view would be to have a monthly report with both income and expenses showing. There will be an estate planning meeting to help people give a portion of their estate to the church.

Liturgy Committee: Kelly Boyle

All liturgical ministers are asked to attend one of the two training sessions offered either on Monday, November 30, at 7:00 pm or Saturday, December 5, at 9:30 am in the church.

OLD BUSINESS:

Welcome Home:

- The “**Welcome Home**” program (for Catholics who have left the Church) is ready to go. There will be six classes on Thursday evenings beginning January 7th

Capital Campaign:

- A brochure was mailed to the entire congregation the first week of November.
- An advanced givers dinner is being organized for November 14th.
- A training session will be offered for the telephone callers on Monday, November 16th at 7:30.
- The Capital Campaign Team will make a presentation at the weekend of Nov. 21/22 Masses. Campaign packets will be distributed. Food and fellowship will be offered after each of the Masses.
- Parishioners will be asked to sign a commitment card at Mass on December 5/6.

NEW BUSINESS:

The council spent the remainder of the meeting discussing chapters 4,5,and 6 of the book, Reclaim the Fire, by Rev. Martin Pable

Adjournment: Jim moved and Anne seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: December 8, 2009 at 8:00 pm (after Mass)

Assignment: Finish Reclaim the Fire (pp. 103-157)

Prayer Leader: Val Enter

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Whalen, Secretary