

St. Mary Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday,
May 11, 2004

Meeting opened at 7:05 pm by Tim Pilat, Chairperson. **Opening song:** *'They'll Know We are Christians'*, followed by recitation of St. Mary's Mission Statement. **Scripture passage:** John 13:33a, 34-35 read by Shirley Klejsmit. The question, *Where do we experience/hear 'Love one another'?*, led to Council's discussion of the scriptures. Would others recognize us as disciples by our love for one another?

Approval of minutes: April meeting minutes approved as amended.

Pastor's report – Fr. Art Heinze

Fr. Gary will leave the weekend of June 18-19. He will be Pastor at St. Patrick in Elkhorn.

Fr. Todd Budde will replace him as Associate on June 22. He is three years ordained and has been at St. Roman's.

June 5-6 or 12-13 will be the thank you weekend for Fr. Gary and Joanne Prei.

June 15 is the Council-Staff picnic. Jim Beuscher, new DRE, and Fr. Budde will be invited.

A memorial Mass For Fr. Gary's mother will also be set very soon.

First Communion went very well at Sunday liturgies. Joanne Prei did a wonderful job.

Religious Ed is finishing up for the year. There will be summer school.

June 19-26 are the dates for the Pine Ridge Reservation trip.

The last construction committee meeting was held. Fr. Art proposed that a Thank You letter be sent to the committee members. They met every other week for two years. They saved us a countless number of problems and countless amounts of money. Mark Wimmer was the Chairperson.

During construction, all of our ministries continued. That is what community is all about. The community became so close during the process.

Magnetic locks will secure the school doors. It is the best we can do to secure the school since it is connected to the church.

Our grade school test scores for the WI Knowledge test were extremely high. Iowa Basic Skills test scores were 3 % higher this year and well above the results of the Whitnall school district. Our school has high standards and *reached* those standards.

Eighth grade graduation is June 4. Their Mass of Appreciation for the parents is Wed., May 12.

June 11 is the end of the school year. Independent summer classes in reading, Spanish, and computer skills will be held.

The phone system needs updating. The current system is maxed out. Of the 3 bids taken, \$20,799 with wiring is the least expensive. The Allied Technologies system will allow for four lines for the school and parish office; an eight-line system. A proposal was presented to purchase the new phone system by Fr. Art and Jeanne Siegenthaler, Principal. Money left over from the school and after care program will help pay for the system, as well as a generous donation. 63 phones, which includes a phone for each classroom, will be installed. They all have a speaker system for an 'all call'.

Clem Budny moved to accept the proposal to purchase the phone system. Accepted unanimously.

Committee structure – Tim Pilat

The goal is to be able to publish a new structure. The current structure was compiled in 1997.

We want to help organize our committee structure within the overarching commissions. The five commissions initially proposed for St. Mary's are: 1. Prayer and Worship 2. Community Life /Human Concerns 3. Christian Formation 4. Parish School Committee 5. Finance/Administrative Services.

We need to enhance communication; find the gaps; identify overriding responsibilities; make it easy for the community to become involved.

With Tim Pilat's instruction, the Council divided into 5 groups to determine what committees/events occur in each of the five commissions. The results were written on flip chart paper and reviewed.

Council expressed their opinions on the value of organizing the structure; seeing this structure in print; marketing the information and getting volunteers; and developing active commissions.

Tim Pilat asked for 2-3 people to compile the info on the flip charts. Tim Pilat, Tim Welch, Mary Matestic, and Dan Paruzynski will compile the data for development of the commission structure and an implementation plan.

Update of Constitution/Bylaws – Tom Grinker

Comments/questions regarding the revised Constitution/Bylaws were entertained. A motion was made to adopt the Constitution as revised with clarification of several points by the Archdiocese.

Tom Grinker will check on these. The motion carried unanimously.

A consensus was reached to defer the Bylaws discussion and review to the next meeting.

Organizational guidelines – Theresa Breunig

Organizational Guidelines, published on June 13, 1985, were distributed. Clem Budny and Steve Borkenhagen will be writing an updated policy. On May 25, the Finance committee will meet and discuss the policy.

The Home & School committee is requesting an updated policy since they have a large budget and need to know what channels to follow; where is the accountability; and what dialogue between Council and Pastor is required. An approval process is desperately needed.

Tim Pilat requested that Council read the 1985 document for an awareness of the information.

Council Officer discernment – Pam Lownik

A list of Council members eligible to serve as officers was distributed. Current committees with liaison assignments are listed.

Visioning Document – deferred

Liaison Committee reports - printed info distributed

Closing prayer: *The Lord's Prayer*

Meeting adjourned: 9:40 pm

Minutes submitted by: Linda Jaeschke, Recording Secy.

Present:

Clem Budny	Theresa Illingworth	Dawn Olander
Ray Backe	Mary Matestic	
Tom Grinker	Ray Moon	Excused
Rev. Art Heinze	Patti Ceille	Rev. Gary Nowicki
Pam Lownik	Tom Kronschnabl	Amy Fritz
Tim Pilat	Theresa Breunig	John Roubik
Tim Welch	Tom Kessenich	
Lisa Ryan	Shirley Klejsmit	
Andrea Holmes	Dan Paruzynski	