

ST. MARY OF WAYNE
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

The Council meeting began at 7:06 with a prayer from Jerry Markey. Jerry would like to rotate the prayer monthly. In attendance were Fr. David Burgard, Sandy Strzalkowski, Cindy Erickson, Twilla Moschgat, Karen Griffin, Dan Hinske, Jerry Markey, RoseAnn Boguslawski, Maryann Beckert, Barbara Braun, Bob Swiekowsky, Maggie Wood, Albert Damitio, John Buehner, Richard Zelmanski, and Ken Hafeli. Tim Strzalkowski, Nancy Zilka, Valerie Schroeder, Dan MacDonald, Eric Pohl, Eileen Pohl, Mai MacDonald, and Theresa Mack were guests. Larry Chastang was excused.

Jerry welcomed the new Council members.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Albert Damitio asked that the June minutes be corrected. Rather than reading "There will be a Parish Picnic. The parish will fund it, but the fundraising committee needs to look at ways to cut the costs," the minutes should read "There will be a Parish Picnic. The parish will not fund it, but the fundraising committee needs to look at ways to cut the costs. Al suggested the parishioners bring own dish. The June Minutes were then approved.

INTRODUCTIONS

The new members and alternates to the Council were introduced.

R.O.C.

Theresa Mack asked that the Council add a teen representative to the PPC. Both Eric Pohl and Mai MacDonald are active in the ROC program and would make a good representative. RoseAnn said there used to be a Youth representative on the PPC. After positive comments from several other PPC members, Jerry asked Fr. David for his comments. Fr. David approved the request and Mai MacDonald joined the Council.

COMMISSION REPORTS

AFTER SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

John Buehner spoke about the After School and Middle School Faith Formation program, formerly referred to as Religious Education. There are 151 students from 105 families. Last year there were 179 and 125 families. 84 returned, 28 did not and 13 had 8th graders. We added 21 new families.

Barb asked why families did not return. John replied all of the families were notified. Some said they had financial difficulties, some moved and others transferred to other parishes. It was stated that we could not deny any child faith formation because of money.

Albert remarked that the lights were out for the 8:30 pick up. The timers were not pushed forward enough and were corrected.

John said there are nine people involved in the RCIA process. Five are unbaptized and four are candidates for full membership. Ages range from 20 to 59. John met with all of them over the summer. The program will start on Sunday September 20.

John is also working with the youth ministry leaders

EDUCATION COMMISSION

There was no report.

STEWARDSHIP

Albert reported since Gary had school. Collections are \$26,175 under budget and envelopes are down about 100 per week. There was a question about loose money, but Twilla said loose collection money was down. There is a need to continue emphasizing that collections are the life-blood of the parish. Cindy asked how we do that. Suggestions were continued announcements from the pulpit, in the bulletin, and by word of mouth.

There was discussion on how parishioners use their envelopes, especially when they are away. Twilla said the regulars change the amount to cover the weeks they'll be away. Albert said we have to ask parishioners to do more. The parish will be asked to help pay down the debt. Sandy remarked that it will be hard to ask parishioners for more money. Dan said it will be painful but we still have to ask. The budget is balanced for 2009-10 but adjustments have to be made before the October PPC meeting. He was going to meet with a debt reduction group on Monday, September 21, something the Archdiocese (AOD) recommends. Barb suggested the need to increase the size of the parish and try to get non-participants to contribute and come to church. Jerry suggested the discussion be tabled until the next meeting.

Albert discussed the facilities usage policy. The CYO is willing to make donations to support parish. It is not AOD policy to charge groups for building use. There should not be a rental fee but a suggested donation. It is recommended that the facility be available for parish functions including funeral luncheons, but not private parties. Parish groups are covered by the AOD's insurance policy. Drop-in Basketball is considered a parish function and Greg Reynolds is willing to collect money from the players.

Cindy asked about the walking program and was told a parish rep had to be present. Tim asked if a parish representative monitored a rental group would Stewardship consider rentals a viable option. Barb asked if there is a rental policy. Al said facilities should be for parish activities and organizations only. Dan asked how much usage there was. Karen there is a handful and they are making donations. Richard asked if the A.A. meetings are a parish organization. That is up to the pastor, but AA makes a donation. Barb said we should not pass up any opportunities for income and rentals should be assessed a \$100 insurance fee. Jerry said the Council should support the Stewardship Commission.

Albert discussed the parish campus walk through. In addition to Al's comments, Tim mentioned the carpet going to the choir loft is bunching. See Al's report for additional notes.

At 8:30 Jerry warned the meeting would end at 9:00, regardless of where we were on the agenda

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Albert said we have a \$30,000 grant for the Outreach Center. He doubted we'd get a second grant from the AOD due to their own financial difficulties. Tim asked whether Gary mentioned two additional grants.

There is still a need for a Coordinator. There has been one out-of-parish inquiry. It was asked if other organizations are willing to oversee activities at the center. St. Vincent DePaul and other groups have been contacted with little success. Fr. David met with the AOD and there are several options including

running it as a separate entity, but a decision was made to keep it in the parish. The Center does get support from other parishes.

There is \$9,000 in the budget for a part-time outreach center organizer. Fr. David said he will make a list of coordinator duties for the October meeting

FUNDRAISING

Tim said dine outs are going well although they need better publicity. Mondays are used because they are the slowest days at most restaurants.

There will be a Mom-to-Mom sale in October.

The Holiday Cash Raffle is expected to be drawn at the November 7, Variety Show. We have the state license and Uht Funeral Home will print tickets for free. We will need volunteers to separate and staple the tickets together. The Youth Group is willing to help. The organizers need names and addresses of parishioners.

The Variety Show is on November 7, with a sit-down dinner catered by Marvaso's. A few things are still needed, including scaffolding for lights and speakers. It was suggested there is scaffolding in the church basement. It was also hoped we could get a scissors-lift for raising decorations. Dr. Schneider is working on the lighting.

Bob Swiekowsky went to the Rock Shoppe in Plymouth to check out the price of engraving memorial bricks.

Taste-Fest – possibly invite local restaurants to hold an event in the Activities Center.

CENSUS

Karen reported a handful of censuses turned in. There are still 692 boxes of envelopes in the office out of a total of 1895.

WORSHIP COMMISSION

Maggie reported Fr. David is the Commission chair. Meetings are moving to Wednesdays. The long intentions during Mass will be shortened. Pet blessing will be on October 3, at 2:30. The children's liturgy begins October 4. Preparations are underway for All-Souls Day service. Life-Span will hold their event on Michigan Avenue on October 4 from 2:30-3:30.

There will be a Mass for Catechists at 10:00 on September 22.

VICARIATE

Twillia said the September meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is at St. Mary on October 6 at 7:00.

PICNIC

The picnic is September 27. PPC asked to help at picnic. The ROC is planning games, including a softball game. There may be clowns.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

There are 244 students, down from 278 last year. Mr. Lipinski is working with the Garden City School District to teach Spanish once a week. The school has new computers and a new computer instructor.

SESQUICENTENNIAL

Ken reported research continues. He conducted interviews over the summer with Fathers Baker, Chabala, Sayers, Pelc, Gembala, and Hanchon. Tim suggested a way to honor previous pastors.

NEW BUSINESS

There is a need for a Vision Statement, which is different than a Mission Statement, including a town hall meeting. This was tabled until October.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Maryanne said the Scrip program is running 75-25 (school to church). The Kroger and Meijer programs are a 50-50 split. The parish received \$1700 from Kroger for 1st quarter. There was discussion about setting up a scholarship fund using scrip money and donations.

Albert thanked the CYO for sponsoring the Wheelfest parade and for representing St. Mary so well during Wheelfest. He also mentioned Alyssa Jennings (34253 Winslow, Wayne) who is ill and likes to receive humorous cards.

GUEST COMMENTS

There were no comments.

PASTORAL REPORTS

Fr. David said he will be going to the AOD Convocation at Boyne.

The meeting closed with a prayer by Fr. David at 9:40.

The next meeting is Wednesday, October 21. RoseAnn will say the opening prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by

Kenneth G. Hafeli
PPC Secretary