

MINUTES
Parish Council Meeting
7:00 pm, Wednesday, July 14, 2010

IN ATTENDANCE: Central Staff--Fr. Dexter Brewer, Christine Caron Gebhardt, Kathy Skinner, Bob True; Executive Committee—Michele Johnson (School Board Chair), Nancy Rohling, Jim Stanford, Jeanne Stejskal (Finance Board Chair), Brett Wesnofske (Campus Committee Chair); Elected/Appointed Parishioners—Clay Bailey, Thomas Meyer, Patrick Pruett; Parish Ministry Representatives—Jim Bryan (Peace through Justice), Sam Francescon (Cursillo), Carrie McGee (Room in the Inn), Janet Morgan (Respect Life), Richard Rodgers (Stewardship), Mark Holmes (Knights of Columbus), Joe Thomashefski (Youth Group), Mary Ann Wieck (Women’s Council)

ABSENT: Patout Burns, Terry Casey, Mike Clepper, Lucia Huskey, Cindy Lybarger, Dave Lybarger, Andy McKenzie

Fr. Dexter opened the meeting with a prayer. The agenda included (1) comments about the make-up of the council, (2) a brief end-of-year financial discussion, (3) discussion and approval of the 2010-2011 budget, (4) update on the capital campaign, (5) update on parish construction project, (6) old and new business, including initiatives of the various ministries or organizations in the parish.

(1) Fr. Dexter explained how he envisions the make-up of the Parish Council. Representatives of various parish ministries and organizations are now invited to attend meetings of the Council. These individuals represent a broad spectrum of parishioners, and it is hoped they will bring information about their groups’ various initiatives to the Parish Council, while at the same time taking information from the Parish Council to their membership. Fr. Dexter would like for the Council to act in this fashion for now, with by-laws and guidelines for a new Council format to follow.

(2) Jeanne Stejskal, as Parish Finance Board chair, provided a brief explanation of the parish’s current financial picture. Even though revenue is down, we expect to end the fiscal year under budget and thus have a surplus at year’s end. This is due in part to responsible spending on the part of “department” heads and savings in other areas. As a result, this provides much-needed reserve funds for future repairs and improvements to the facility.

(3) A new budget for 2010-2011 was also presented—a budget based on the Board’s vision for the future. The parish continues to grow and there is much excitement about our building project, so it is felt that prospects are good for increased revenue in the future. Jeanne assured the Council that there are measures in place to control spending should revenue not pick up. Projects can be scaled back or postponed if necessary. The Finance Board reviews the budget monthly and will assess the financial picture on a regular basis. The Finance Board has approved the new budget and the Council was asked to do so as well. Brett Wesnofske moved that the 2010-2011 budget be approved, Pat Pruett seconded, and all Council members were in favor.

(4) Fr. Dexter gave a brief update on the capital campaign. The campaign is now officially concluded, with John Mosher of Walsh and Associates no longer here and his work on the campaign complete. John did a

great job for Christ the King. Everyone agrees that we had a wonderful response from parishioners and others in the community, with pledges totaling around \$3.9 million.

Follow-up activity on pledges and any new campaign activity will be carried out by our campaign leadership team and parish staff members.

(5) Brett Wesnofske, Campus Committee chair, reported on our construction project. The Phase I project was originally projected to cost around \$3.2 million in hard construction cost. In today's economy, bids from the five chosen, pre-qualified contractors came in much less than the original projection—with the lowest bid at \$2.5 million in hard construction cost. This is a tremendous savings to the parish and reflects the current economic picture in Nashville. The Campus Committee voted to accept this bid from Southland Contractors. Asbestos removal has already begun in the gym area, and construction work will follow very soon.

The Campus Committee also proposed that the parish consider moving forward with Phase II of our building program, as there are numerous advantages in doing so at this time. Construction costs are lower now; there is less inconvenience and disruption to the school/parish by completing both phases at the same time; we would avoid immediate, much-needed repairs in areas included in Phase II building; both phases would be completed in just under a year; and it is proposed that both phases can be accomplished with only \$400,000 in additional funds. Various members of the Council offered comments in support of this proposal, agreeing that it made good sense to go forward with Phase II now.

The Campus Committee and the Finance Board had voted to move forward with Phase II, and the Parish Council was asked for its approval as well. Michele Johnson moved that we undertake Phase II at this time, Pat Pruett seconded, and all Council members voted in favor. Fr. Dexter will now take this request to the Diocese for permission to move forward.

(6) Fr. Dexter again explained his decision to include heads (or representatives) of various ministries and organizations on the Parish Council. He will see how this model works and decide in coming months what changes to make in the Council by-laws. He invited those in attendance to report on their various ministries. Mark Holmes mentioned that the Knights of Columbus organization is working on its calendar for the year, with their next big event being the Knight Night Golf outing on September 24th. Mary Ann Wieck reported that the Women's Council fund-raising dinner is scheduled for Saturday, November 13th.

Carrie McGee asked how construction would affect Room in the Inn. With possible inclusion of Phase II, space needs could cause additional problems, and further discussion with John Green was suggested. If Room in the Inn is moved upstairs to the parish hall, this would affect Ultreya on Wednesday nights. Sam Francescon offered to speak with members of Ultreya to discuss possible changes for the coming year—either moving to a different night or to a different location temporarily.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for Wednesday, October 13th.

Submitted by Nancy Rohling
July 16, 2010