

Saint Jude the Apostle Parish Council Meeting

Minutes from May 18, 2011

(Subject to approval)

Present: Fr. Charlie Conley, Mary Pat Ninneman (chair), Paul Szews, Andy Boettcher (secretary), John Lauber, Bill Flood, Gary Ruesch, Larry Burnett, Art Montgomery, Mary Garcia-Valez, , Sarah Trotter (vice-chair), Catherine Rose Bryant.

Excused: Mona DeGuzman, Mary Sowinski, Bill Hilbert, Steve Berg (youth representative)

Call to order at 7:04 p.m. by Mary Pat Ninneman. Opening prayer led by Art Montgomery

Minutes of the April 13, 2011 meeting were approved.

Chair's Report – Mary Pat Ninneman thanked Father Charlie and everyone involved for the beautiful Easter celebrations. Mary Pat noted that the First Communion celebration was very nice. Mary Pat also thanked the Nomination Committee for their hard work preparing for the recent Parish Council elections. The Council offered a special thanks to Lee Horlitz for all his hard work on this and that his help was indispensable.

Pastor's Report – Fr. Charlie thanked the Parish Council Nomination Committee. The recently held Parish Council elections went smoothly.

Finance Committee Report – John Lauber reported that we are currently projecting a balanced budget for the end of the fiscal year, June 30. John reported that we are starting to receive the results of the Bridge Campaign. A kickoff event was held recently to begin this effort. The Bridge Campaign is part of our efforts to help transition our Activity Center funding model from debt reduction campaigns to an operating budget model. This was part of the multifaceted stewardship approach that was approved by the Finance Committee and is currently being implemented.

Staff Reports

Principal's Report – Catherine LaDien reported via email that 5th grade students and their parents were invited to a Middle School orientation event, held May 18, that included a tour, staff introductions and a question and answer session. Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 who have maintained placement on the Honor Roll and/or Principal's Honor Roll for the first, second and third quarters are eligible to receive the Men of St. Jude Award. In addition, students who have placed in various academic competitions will receive recognition awards from the Men of St. Jude. This year's Men of St. Jude Award Night is scheduled for Tuesday, May 24, at 7:00, with guest speaker Vince Shiely, a 1975 graduate of St. Jude School. Eighth grade awards for Outstanding Leadership, Service and the Presidential Award for Educational Excellence will be presented at the event. The School is planning to use iPads and SMARTboards next year and we are looking for donations to support these efforts. Most of the faculty recently attended a weekend workshop in support of this effort. Part II of the registration process is underway and the enrollment numbers are encouraging for next year. Preparations are under way for a number of events including High Interest Day, the 8th grade retreat and class trip to Chicago, all-school graduation and Call to Leadership liturgy, end-of-year and teacher recognition prayer service, formal graduation events and Camp Bobcat. Camp Bobcat will be held on the evening of June 4 and will include board games, movie, entertainment, organized gym activities, a pizza dinner and a continental breakfast.

Religious Education – Gary Heun reported, via email, that First Communion and Confirmation went very well. Registration forms have been mailed for the next school year. We are in need of team teachers for 1st, 2nd, 7th, 8th grades and 4 small group leaders for Confirmation. Four new families have joined the parish since the last Parish Council meeting.

Liaison Reports

Human Concerns – Mary Sowinski reported, via email, that the committee is looking into “twinning” with a parish in Tanzania. The Cy Young Blood Drive was held on May 8, as was the Rose sale. The Spring Outreach Collection will be held on May 22. There are several upcoming fundraisers, including the Noodle and Co. fundraiser on June 16. The jewelry and rummage sale at Pius parish will be held on May 21 and the mum sale will be on Labor Day weekend.

Women of St. Jude – Sarah Trotter reported that the Mother/Daughter breakfast will be held on Sunday, May 22, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. The Thank-You Luncheon will be held on June 12. Previously, this luncheon was limited to those who volunteered in the Thrift Shop. The Board decided to expand the invitation to all women who volunteered for the many programs and events sponsored by the Women of St. Jude. Thanks to Christine Westfall who is assisting with the invitations this year. Patti Gilgaren, President of Women of St. Jude, will present a big check to Fr. Charlie at all the Masses that same weekend. The check represents the Thrift Shop proceeds that will be donated to the Parish.

School Advisory Committee – Mary Garcia-Valez reported that the School Advisory Committee has held two meetings and has discussed campus parking issues during snow removal. They also discussed the handicapped parking spaces near the church. The school is currently planning for a future accreditation process required by the Archdiocese. This must be done every seven years.

Nomination Committee – Larry Burnett reported that Steve Hushek, Paul Maranan, Paul Lorenz, Tricia O’Neil and Mary Sowinski were elected to the Parish Council in the recent election. Mike Maranan will be the Youth representative on the Council. Larry Burnett thanked Lee Horlitz for his exceptional work throughout the Nomination and Election process, particularly during the ballot tallying process. Congratulations to all the newly elected Council members!

Faith Formation – Father Charlie led a discussion of the articles “For You and Who Else” and “Teaching or Commanding”

Old Business – Sr. Frances Cunningham, SSSF, from the Archdiocesan Office of Parish Mission will attend the June Council meeting to discuss the process and potential of “twinning” with a sister parish in Tanzania.

New Business – None

Closing prayer was led by Art Montgomery. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Boettcher, Secretary

Note: If you have an idea or a concern that you would like to the Parish Council to consider, please contact the chair or vice-chair or any member: Steve Berg (youth representative) (793-9356), Andy Boettcher (secretary) (453-2035), Catherine Bryant (727-4077), Larry Burnett, Mona DeGuzman, Bill Flood (665-6301 wk or 208-6284 cell), Bill Hilbert (257-0135), John Lauber (453-3355), Art Montgomery (476-3298), Mary Pat Ninneman (chair) (545-0638 or 303-5153), Terry Rice, Gary Ruesch (453-6468), Mary Sowinski (453-3879), Paul Szews, Sarah Trotter (vice-chair) (475-0712), Mary Garcia-Velez (258-6977).