

St. John Vianney Parish Council Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2013

Members Present:

Fr. Ken Knippel, Pastor
Fr. Phillip Bogacki, Associate Pastor
Mike Ostrenga, Trustee Treasurer
Cheryl Zima, Trustee Secretary
Mark Rye, Vice Chair
Ken Kern, Secretary
Bill Hattendorf, School Board Liaison
Nancy Nelson, Stewardship Liaison
Maria Pascente, Christian Formation Liaison
Brian Schloemer, Admin/Finance Liaison
Rosemarie Wegner, Prayer and Worship Liaison
Doug Wildes, Human Concerns Liaison

Excused: Jon Hauser

Guests Present: Director of Administrative Services Mike Schaumann, and Steve Szymanski and Randy Freeman from Admin/Finance.

Call to Order: The meeting started at 8:55pm, being led by Vice Chair Mark Rye.

Approval of Minutes: There were no suggested changes to the minutes from our March 18th meeting.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Ken reported on these items:

1. He stated he was happy with how the liturgies went throughout Lent and Holy Week.
2. He passed out Archbishop Listecky's Pastoral Letter for review and discussion at our next meeting.
3. The Building Project Committee met on Saturday, April 13th and chose The James Co. as consultant, and will proceed with a feasibility study as the first step in the Narthex project as explained in Father's recent bulletin article.
4. Parish Retreat planning continues. Dates are June 28, 29 and 30 at Green Lake.
5. International twinning will have a "soft kick off" on Pentecost Sunday and a "hard kick off" in September. Father thanked Julie Beres and Mary Label for their continued work on this.
6. New priest assignments affecting our Associate Pastor position are expected in the next week or 2.
7. About \$11,000 was raised at Masses this past weekend by Madre Miguel Conway for the Working Boys Center in Ecuador, once again demonstrating the generosity of SJV parishioners.

Committee Member Discernment: Ken Kern reported that the committees finished their work of contacting nominees, and about 35 verbally committed to come to CLN tonight. While some prepared name tags were not picked up, there were a few additional people who came. Most, but not all, committees discerned new members at tonight's meeting. Ken will follow up with committee chairs to

determine if any nominees had to be turned away due to full rosters, so those people can be asked to consider options to serve on other sub-committees or ministries.

Interim Financial Results: A projection of financial results through the June 30th fiscal year was distributed. The presentation was led by Steve and Randy. Numerous concerns were raised, and explanations were discussed including a projected deficit and corresponding reduction in the parish's net worth, and the fact that we were operating for several months with incomplete financials due to the change in the accounting software. This made it hard for PC members to get a good handle on the numbers such as for the proposal for school playground equipment presented last month. Further concerns include the increasing unbudgeted expenses while tuition and stewardship revenue are flat at best, use of the line of credit and transfer of funds from reserves, archdiocesan reporting requirements, the allocation of "bids" and "annual fund" dollars, and the distortion of cash flow caused by the timing of streams of income vs. expenses within or overlapping into different fiscal years. Conclusions drawn were that we clearly need to do a better job of being more disciplined in sticking to budget before spending. We must also continue to expand budget "tools and training" with dept. heads. There was also discussion about our fortunate position of having reserves; are reserves to be used in times of need, or must they be conserved? There is no simple answer. The point was made that "ministry is why we are here," and as a non-profit we do not gauge our success on our net worth.

2013/14 Budget: The Fiscal Year 2014 Budget (Third Draft) and Capital Plan were distributed. Discussion was again led by Steve and Randy. Highlights of the discussion are as follows:

1. The previously proposed \$100 annual tuition increase per family for the next school year was deemed to be reasonable and was approved unanimously by PC. It was noted that the annual fund helps avoid a larger tuition increase.
2. A 4% budget decrease will be requested from department heads for next year. As was stated above, efficiency in production, and in supplies used, etc. must be stressed. Planned school bathroom repairs and the replacing of the rectory roof will be delayed.
3. Per Mike Schaumann, health premiums are going up only about 5%, dental about 6%, and zero increase for vision. Benefits "match" for the Flexible Spending Accounts of employees will no longer be offered as a benefit.
4. A more complete budget, aiming at a surplus, will continue to be worked on.

A big "thank you" was expressed by PC for all the hard work and long hours put in by the Admin/Finance/Budget committee people. While we have now approved salaries and tuition, we look forward to approving the overall budget at our May meeting.

Liaison Committee Reports were foregone due the fact that reports had been given downstairs in the CLN group gathering, and due to the lateness of the hour.

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 10:25pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ken Kern, PC Secretary.