

St. John Vianney Parish Council Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2010

Members Present: Kathy Bell Pat Butler Kurt Baumann
Fr. Phillip Bogacki Mike Cekanor Larry Francione
Fr. Ken Knippel Doug Miller Paul Mindel
Michael Ostrenga Greg Van Winkle Cheryl Zima

Members Excused: Richard Gassert

Guests: Jon Hauser

Call to Order: Mike Cekanor, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Opening Prayer:

Paul Mindel led the opening prayer.

Review of Minutes:

The minutes from the December 14, 2009 meeting were approved.

Open Forum:

No activity.

Pastor's Report:

Father Ken observed that Christmas Masses and activities at SJV went well.

This is National Vocation Week. The Vocations Committee will be having a dinner at the rectory on Thursday Jan. 14. Invitations were sent to 800 parishioners ages 18-30 and none accepted the invitation. The invitations were extended to youth, and some junior high and high school students (9 in total) plus the Vocation Committee will be at the dinner. Ms. Peggy Duemling, a former nun who served as a driver for Mother Teresa, is the guest speaker.

Other vocations activities include informal men's and women's discernment groups.

On January 22, SJV will host the annual Archdiocesan Respect Life Mass on the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision. The Mass will be at 7:00 p.m. with Archbishop ListECKI presiding. A reception will follow the Mass. On Thursday evening, January 21st at 7:00 p.m., Deacon John

Ebel will lead a Eucharistic Holy Hour. Deacons throughout the Archdiocese will also be hosting Eucharistic Holy Hours at other parishes on the evening of January 21..

Parish Finance Update

Jon Hauser, chairperson of the Parish Finance Committee reported that actual stewardship contributions thru Dec. 31 trailed the budget by \$57K. We are also seeing a downward trend in that stewardship contributions for July 1 – Dec. 31, 2009 are down \$11K from the same time period from last year.

It was suggested that the Stewardship committee work with the parish accounting office to do some trend analysis on several segments of the parish stewardship population to gain insight into the stewardship trends. This could involve looking at overall stewardship trends within the past 3-5 years, trends within stewardship groupings (as identified in the Annual Report), correlations between ministry involvement and stewardship contributions, new membership contributions and ministry involvement, and the impact of the Faith in Our Future appeal on annual stewardship contributions. In addition, we should look outside SJV to ascertain stewardship trends at other parishes with similar make-up to SJV. This will help us gain additional insight into our stewardship contributions and assist in our budgeting efforts going forward.

The school enrollment this school year is lower (at about 500 students) than had been projected, accounting for YTD actual tuition received being \$57K below budget. The original school tuition budget anticipated the enrollment of additional students from St Luke's following that school's closing. The good news is that the projected school enrollment for next year (512-513 students) is higher based on a sound census of anticipated students.

Christian Formation has not seen the increase in enrollment that was hoped for and therefore has had less than budgeted registration fees.

On the plus side, investment income shows a favorable \$90K yield to-date. However, investment income is not put in the budget because it is not necessarily a recurring event and this income has not been realized.

Building and Grounds expenses are favorable due to some parish center and school update expenses that would normally be covered by the budget but are now being paid through the Faith In Our Future funds. The parish would normally spend \$80-130K in capital expenses, but year to-date, only \$5K has been spent on capital expenses that were not covered by Faith In Our Future funds. While this will cover this year's capital expenses, future budgets will need to include \$80-130k in capital expenses in order to maintain our facilities.

At this point, should stewardship contributions maintain their current trend, it is anticipated that the parish will have an approximate \$100K budget deficit for the year. Should investment income maintain its positive trend and be realized, we could end the year near break-even.

The Finance/Administrative Services committee and Stewardship committee will work with the parish accounting office in an effort to achieve the best budget result for 2009-10. The Finance/Admin. Services committee will work with the parish finance office to begin the budgeting process for 2010-11 in February. In establishing the 2010-11 budget, in addition to managing our costs, we need to gain a better understanding of the stewardship trends that are impacting our budget. Considerations for additional tuition/fee increases for services as well as possible cutbacks in services will need to be evaluated in order to develop a balanced budget..

On a positive note, involvement in ministries is up. Often parishioners involved in ministries are the most committed to donating financially. Perhaps some parishioners are opting to donate more time and less money because of their circumstances this year.

Currently a fixed percentage (5%) of the parish revenue is going to outreach.

The Finance Committee will be meeting with the date to be determined.

Review of 2010 Discernment Process/Committee Nomination Calendar

Important dates in the discernment process were reviewed:

Jan. 30, 2010: Selection Committee formed by Council Vice-Chair

Feb. 15, 2010: Committee/Council discernment reviewed at Common Leadership Night (CLN) Meeting

Feb. 21, 2010: "Pastor Corner" of bulletin will highlight upcoming committee discernment process and pulpit announcements. Full page bulletin insert will review purpose/responsibilities of the six standing committees and include information on the subcommittees.

Feb. 28, 2010: Bulletin & pulpit education about Christian Formation, Human Concerns committees

March 7, 2010: Bulletin & pulpit education about Admin/Finance & Prayer/Worship committees

March 14, 2010: Bulletin & pulpit education about School Board and Stewardship committees

March 21, 2010: Nomination weekend

March 22-April 2, 2010: Nominees contacted and invited to April 12 CLN Meeting

April 12, 2010: New committee members attend CLN Meeting

May 10, 2010: Discernment of 2010/2011 Parish Council officers

June 14, 2010: Selection of committee officers & parish council liaisons for 2010/2011

Parish Council Vice-Chair Cheryl Zima will lead the discernment process and will form a selection committee.

Review of Faith In Our Future Case Statement

The original parish goal for the FIOF campaign was \$2.75 million. If we had achieved that goal, 60% of the donations would remain at the parish yielding \$1.65 million for use on the parish case statement items. To date, the actual amount pledged was \$1.992 million which was 72.5% of our original goal. Sixty percent or \$1,195,500 will stay at SJV for the items identified in our FIOF case statement. While we fell short of our initial goal, given the turn in the economy since the work began at SJV on the FIOF appeal, we are encouraged by the response to the FIOF appeal. However, since we have fallen short of our initial goal amount, the case statement will have to be revised. While we are over budget on the remodeling of the parish center and school, we have determined that it makes sense to finish the school and parish center remodeling. Estimated costs for school and parish center remodeling were based on some budget items and estimates that were developed without having the ability to finalize the scope of the project prior to the initiation of the FIOF Appeal. The school and parish center remodeling will cost \$630K without the furniture expenses. \$130K for furniture brings the total to \$760K. There was a separate \$10K donation earmarked for some of the furniture. The remodeling is being done in phases as monies from the campaign become available.

Since the FIOF donations will not cover the full amount needed for all the items set forth in the FIOF case statement, we will have to defer one or more items. It makes sense to defer on the narthex addition as there will not be enough money to do the project from the FIOF funds.

The immersion trip endowment is very popular. Approximately \$20K of the money pledged to FIOF was specifically earmarked for specific items in the case statement. We cannot solicit for more funds to supplement the case statement items until the FIOF is over.

Because there will not be enough money for the narthex, the Parish Council recommends that the narthex addition be moved to #4 on the case statement list. Since the monies from FIOF cannot be diverted to pay for Operating expenses, the revised plan would be to defer the addition to the narthex, and after the FIOF is done, if we choose to do the narthex addition, we will need to look at raising supplemental funds to complete the narthex. Therefore, the proposed revised case statement would include the completion of the remodeling of the parish center/school (budget amount \$750,000) as the number one item. The number two item would be the funding of the immersion/mission trip endowment (budget amount \$200,000). The third item would be the outreach gift to Prince of Peace parish (budget amount \$35,000). The fourth item would be the initial funding of the narthex addition (\$210,500 remaining). We have been made aware that a parishioner has generously agreed to purchase a new electronic organ at a yet-to-be determined time in the future, so apparently the funding for this item through FIOF will not be necessary.

The revisions to the case statement were discussed, but it was agreed that a decision on approving the revised case statement should be delayed at least thirty days. This will allow an opportunity for parishioners to provide input on the proposed changes to the case statement. Council members have been encouraged to solicit feedback on the proposed revisions.

Liaison Committee Reports

School Board—no report

Building and Grounds—The Christian Formation offices have been framed in and a hole was cut in the wall reconfiguring the offices.

Finance—covered earlier in the meeting

Human Concerns—Paul reported that there will be a Common Ground listening session on January 20 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in P205.

Prayer & Worship—no report

Stewardship—no report

New Business

Paul mentioned that there is never mention of anything happening on the Athletic Board and he raised the question as to whether there should be since there is some volatility at times. It can be a pressure keg because it involves parents and students who by nature tend to be rather competitive.

Father Ken suggested that the standing committees continue to invite their subcommittee liaisons to attend their regular meetings. For example, the Athletic Board would attend some Finance/Admin. Meetings and then the Finance/Admin council liaison would bring any necessary reports to the Parish Council.

Closing Prayer: Larry Francione led the Council in prayer. The meeting was concluded with the sign of peace exchanged with each other.

Next Meeting: February 15, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Butler