

St. John Vianney Parish Council Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2010

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

Call to Order: Mike Cekanor, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Review of Minutes:

The minutes from the April 12, 2010 meeting were approved.

Open Forum:

No activity.

Pastor's Report:

Richard Gassert has resigned from Parish Council.

Father Ken reported that the taped Mass went well. It is for Trinity Sunday and will air May 30; It is a pilot program.

In May SJV had 115 confirmed and 117 receive first Eucharist. Both were uplifting liturgies.

The SJV staff had their annual meeting with the staff of our twin parish Prince of Peace; it had actually been over a year since the last joint staff meeting. The weekend of August 14-15 the parish priests will exchange pulpits. This will occur after the summer service project.

Beginning Monday May 17 we will have a seminarian John Mitchell at SJV for summer placement.

The search committee will be interviewing the 3 finalists for school principal in a marathon interviewing session from 3:00-9:00 p.m. on May 13.

Father Ken was "jailed" for the Muscular Dystrophy fundraiser on May 6 and raised \$1605 exceeding his goal of \$1600. He appreciates the donations.

The Assembly of Priests met from Monday afternoon May 3 to Wednesday noon May 5. It is an annual professional meeting that priests of the Archdiocese participate in. Their topic was Human Sexuality and Priests Today: Exploring the Landscape. It was presented by Brother

James Zullo, FSC and was good. The archbishop met with the priests to go over various questions. He affirmed that priests are eligible to retire at age 68. The Archbishop indicated that he intends to revamp how he runs the Priest Council. It used to be comprised of the deans. The archbishop wants the deans in the field. In the future the Priest Council will be elected with ultimate placement by the Archbishop. Names are submitted by brother priests in the district. The Priest Council makes policies, and the deans implement them.

The Quad Pastors met May 7. There was a big discussion about the Archdiocesan Lenten Reconciliation service held at St. Dominic's for the entire district. Participation was down in the Quad because we cancelled our individual services in favor of this one. In hindsight it appears that parishioners appear to prefer to go to reconciliation at their own parish.

Parishioner Rosemarie Naegele received her certification in Lay Ministry through the Certificate Program of the St. Claire Center at Cardinal Stritch University. The parish provided some economic support. She may be interested in applying what she has learned in administrative services/finance.

Father Ken gave a health report on himself now that he will be turning 60 this month. He has a heart problem that is under control, his knees are better post surgery. He has no plans to retire early.

Committee Nomination/Discernment Revisions

Cheryl Zima reported that she and Pat Butler documented the updated SJV Discernment Process and offered a timeline that allows each year's dates to be plugged in eliminating the need for annual updates to the process. The process is essentially the same as last year's process but recommends starting the process a week earlier. Also the ad hoc selection committee to be formed by the Parish Council Vice Chair shall consist of at least two members rather than four; at least two should be Parish Council members. This committee manages all aspects of the committee nomination and selection process. The process and documentation were approved without revision.

Development of Strategic Plan Goal for Effective Communication Strategy

Kurt Bauman facilitated the discussion. On May 19 the Parish Planning Committee will be facilitating standing committee's work in developing goals and initiatives for the Parish strategic plan. It was determined that the Goal: *Develop an effective communication strategy including internal communications and external marketing* under the Objective: *Be characterized as a vibrant, welcoming community engaged in worship, ministries and outreach* should be owned by the Parish Council because it is so broad. We started talking about solutions such as offering the project to a college student to work on. Questions were raised: "What is the problem?" "Do we need to focus more?" Father Ken observed that Paula Folda's desk is the communications center—she manages the bulletin and the calendar. Kathy Uy does e-communications. She should be consulted to see if she has a plan. Both internal and external communications—the latter being marketing—need to be looked at. It was felt that we should develop an ad hoc committee. We would possibly involve Kathy Uy and the Link Office (Amy Abplanalp and Linda

Kroll). There is a need to define the plan. The Stewardship Committee makes decisions on annual report. It would make sense to involve liaisons from various committees—Marketing, Communications and Technology are all part of this. It may make sense to explore the use of social media such as Twitter and Facebook. We may consider doing a baseline looking at the kind of communication we have. There are many things in existence such as the bulletin, e bulletin, Shamrock Weekly, etc. What is working? What information is being funneled? Do a gap analysis. In the first year, do an assessment of where we are today. Then for successive years have outcomes identified to work toward. The ad hoc committee would be chaired by someone from Parish Council. Mike Ostrenga offered to write a charter for the ad hoc committee. A crude timeline was suggested:

June 14, 2010—determine at Parish Council meeting who will be liaison to the ad hoc communications committee from Parish Council

Sept. 1—pull the committee together to be active.

January 1—complete communications assessment

June, 2011--recommendation of structure and format for communications strategy and implementation

The suggestion was made to identify Parishioners who might have marketing/communications/technology skills and experience. Colleen Smith owns a Marketing firm. Someone also mentioned that William Thorne, a retired Communications professor from Marquette University might be someone we could consult with. Kurt volunteered to talk with the Link office to see if they can identify parishioners with Marketing, Communications, and/or Technology talents.

Liaison Committee Reports

Administrative Services/Finance—Mike Ostrenga reported that they haven't done their discernment of new members yet. They have 9 candidates and 6 came to their last meeting. The Chair Jon Hauser did not provide an update and we need to update the parish on who is serving on committees. Mike is still pursuing reporting the accounting for Bids of Kids differently as he believes the current treatment in the reporting distorts the financial picture. It is expensed in two years and the way it is reported now makes it look like we have \$100K more than we really have.

Christian Formation—Since Richard Gassert resigned from Parish Council, we do not have a liaison until next month.

Human Concerns—Paul Mindel reported that 5 people accepted nominations and all were accepted onto the committee. The participation has been strong and has benefited by the structure provided by the guidelines.

Prayer & Worship—Kathy Bell indicated that they haven't met. Four new members came on without going through discernment.

School Board—Larry Francione indicated that School Board plans to meet on Monday and as was reported at last month's CLN, 3 new members were discerned (Susan Koehn, David Crosby and Kim Talmadge).

Stewardship—Kurt Baumann was not at their last meeting. He did report that they are investigating credit card contribution options.

New Business None

Parish Council Officer Discernment

With the exclusion of outgoing councilors and ex-officio councilors, only 5 councilors are eligible for officer positions. Councilors must have at least one year of Parish Council experience before they are eligible to serve as a Parish Council officer. Each of those 5 was asked to briefly evaluate the parish, identify which officer position would be of interest, and why they see themselves in the role—what gifts they feel they bring to the position. Other councilors responded offering support and encouragement. Two of the five eligible councilors indicated that they prefer not to pursue Parish Council officer roles at this time. Councilors were asked to write down names for each officer position on a piece of paper—could list 0, 1 or more for each. Father Ken then wrote the names of each under the office they were listed for, transferring the names from the councilor papers to a flip chart. If a name was repeated for the same office, it was only listed once for the office as it was not a vote by number. Those listed could remove their name if they were not interested in assuming the position. There was some discussion and the resulting officers were discerned without the need for a ballot:

Chair: Cheryl Zima

Vice Chair: Mike Ostrenga

Secretary: Pat Butler—is allowed to serve in the position for a 3rd year because it is a year of transition.

The discernment prayer was led by Father Ken—we accidentally did this out of order and so it served as a closing prayer prior to handshakes of peace.

Father Phillip announced that he and Father Ken were hosting a brief social for Parish Council immediately following the meeting at the rectory.

Closing Prayer: Handshakes of peace were exchanged.

Next Meeting: CLN on June 14, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Butler