

Parish Council Minutes - - Tuesday, May 8, 2012

St. Mathias Church – Hampton – Parish Center Conference Room

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chair Sallie Scott.

Prayer: Father Stan read the gospel of the 6th Sunday of Easter – year B – Gospel according to John. The Great Commandment of love one another was the theme. Prayers were said for Sallie Scott's brother in law and for Mary Bray's family friend both suffering from cancer.

Roll call: Father Stan, Sallie Scott, Bill Nelson, Glenn Mogensen, Mary Bray, and Rhonda Rother. Absent were Chris Kirby, Ashley Otte and Maralee Rother. Rhonda Rother was asked to take the minutes.

Approval of March Minutes: Bill Nelson made a motion and Glenn Mogensen seconded that the minutes be approved with revisions. Revisions noted 1) spelling in Prayer section of Father Kivel's name, 2) Catholic School Assistance for Grades K-8 - Motion carried with six ayes. 3) Catholic School Assistance for Preschool – Motion carried with five ayes, one nay. Also noted that a few copies of the minutes be placed in the back of church as well as posted on the website. Rhonda will check with the John Wiik to see about how to post the minutes on the website.

Financial report: Father Stan mentioned that the Capital Campaign CD was cashed and put into the general fund to go toward the balance due on the window project and later to possibly be put into a money market savings account or invested with Ed Jones or Catholic Community Foundation.

No docket items.

Maintenance: The windows will be back in mid-July. We have had 4 windows sponsored at \$6000 each and 2 others inquired about. The maintenance committee is looking at doing some grading on the front hill where the rectory use to be with removal of some trees and the old steps and sidewalk that lead to the rectory; the retaining wall in front of church and drainage by the parish center as some water has been seeping into the basement. A lot of improvements have been completed and facilities look good and parishioner appreciate is high.

Liaison Reports: Catholic United Financial matching bingo grant was \$362.00. Profit was in the neighborhood of \$700- 800. Next year it should be noted that a gambling license from the State of Minnesota is required for Bingo as it is a form of gambling. Charitable Works Committee is having a blood drive on May 30. Personal items are being collected for Haiti. Birthing kits are being put together. Alonza Raway family has donated quilts that will need tying. Sallie Scott noted that Mary Bray will be the liaison to this committee as she is a member of it.

Jail Ministry is a five parish task where six times a year persons go down and help minister to the residents of the Red Wing Detention facility. Yvonne Arendt will be doing a plea in the parish to get more volunteers for this ministry.

Faith Formation was a struggle with the Confirmation interviews. Confirmation will be May 21st and First Communion was April 29th. The faith formation year ended on Wednesday, May 2 with a picnic. Father will also be meeting with the Faith Formation teachers and discussing how to improve the program, what worked and what didn't. Also want to get more involvement in retreats.

Liturgy: Maralee Rother has asked to step down and some money was budgeted to possible redo the Saturday and Sunday liturgy. It was discussed about hiring an organist for Saturday and a cantor for both Masses. It was also discussed that the choir needs to have a stronger voice leading them in the music. It was also mention that a party should be held to thank Maralee for her years of dedicated work. It was agreed to move ahead with changing up the music and liturgy.

Phone Calls - - Reports should be submitted to Father Stan either by e-mail or mail. The question for the next round of phone calls was discussed and suggested. Some suggestions were: Did you know the church has air conditioning? What kind of changes would you like to see in the summer worship?

Budget: Father Stan and Father Jay meet and decided that Youth Ministry would again try to hire a full time person to cover the five parishes for next year with a budget \$8000. Pamela Strobel has resigned and her last day will be June 29, 2012. It is a difficult dynamics with four high schools and five parishes to be seen at a lot of events in order to get the students to reciprocate in attending the youth group functions. More guidance from the pastors will be needed and more engaging of the parents. A good exit interview with Pamela will need to be done.

Parish Tithing was also discussed. Father Stan recommended 2% of the collection to go toward local community outreach to generate visibility of the parish in the community. Father spoke with the Hampton mayor and Colleen Marschall to get some ideas. Some thoughts were computer classes held in the school for the community, or community festival event. It was also brought up that a good contact may be the Hampton Boosters for more ideas of what may be needed in the community.

Hampton has a lot of transitional persons that look a little lost and we need to try and be a more welcoming community to them.

Pastor's Remarks:

There is a new Evangelization program to be announced in October that will run until the next October. Matthew Kelly will be discussing topics of renewing your Catholic Faith. There will be a kickoff and five teaching times in the spring covering subjects such as "Why Baptism?" and "Why Eucharist?" A book written by Matthew Kelly will be distributed in the parishes.

Two new directors will be hired at the Archdiocese for the departments of Communications and Marriage and Family Life. A parish self study will be rolling out to the parishes in the next several months. A six month forewarning will be given. It will include a four hour meeting with Father Charlie Lachowitz from St. John Neumann parish in Eagan.

Development department will cover bequests for parishes. Maybe mention in bulletin about including the parish in wills.

A question was asked about how the parish is doing on weekly collections. The collections are higher in comparison to last year.

Father Stan stated that stewardship drives are usually held in Oct/Nov and combined with a talent survey. A suggestion was made to put the weekly envelope count and year to

date totals for the weekend collections. It was also suggested to put % of amounts given in the bulletin as a means to increase the weekly collections. (ie 10 envelopes @ \$10 etc.)

The five parish fundraiser is proceeding. They are looking to send a letter to a few parishioners to help with the planning and getting sponsors for the event. Possibly take place in 2013 or 2014. Each parish would have an initial investment of \$6000. Father Stan is still working with Ashley Otte on getting the Slot Car Racing track going.

Seven Essential Elements: Self assessment of parish. What we have? What are we missing? Series of questions like what do you really want to have and what are we really doing? Possibly have an anointing service. One has not been done for a long time.

Bill Nelson presented his Ministry, Charity and Justice. Pastoral Care – visiting the sick. Father Stan visits those that are really sick and in hospital. Volunteers possibly needed for this ministry. Vocation Prayer – need to start having that said at Mass again. Print up stickers and put them in the back of books. Altar Servers – are very well trained and do a great job for the parish. More lectors are needed and all need to be trained to express the readings.

Recommended a new ministry signup sheet to be put in the bulletin include on it: serving on the parish council, gift bearers and youth group.

A motion was made to adjourn by Glenn Mogensen, seconded by Sallie Scott.

Meeting dates to be put on the calendar are: Tuesday, July 10th and Tuesday, September 11th at 7:30 p.m. in the parish center conference room.