

**Parish Council Minutes -DRAFT - Tuesday February 2, 2015**  
**St. Mathias Church – Hampton –Church Basement**

The concept of combining committee meetings to one night starting at 6 pm with a light meal, 6:30 the various committees meet and if need to consult with another committee they can go and talk to them was implemented tonight. It was discussed that the format is workable and will continue for future meetings.

The meeting was opened by Lori Nicolai at 7:40 p.m. and was followed with prayer by Father Stan.

Roll call: Father Stan, Lori Nicolai, Katie Kiminski, Zach Dejarlais, Jennifer Kirby, Jim Heiman, and Rhonda Rother. Absent: Jim Rother

Approval of November 18 Minutes: Motion made by Zach Dejarlais and seconded by Katie Kiminski. Motion carried

Scribe: It was decided to put a "wanted" ad in the bulletin for someone to become the new scribe.

Father's appointed member of council. The council recommends that a confirmed youth be asked to join the parish council to get a young person's perspective on what is needed to help improve the vibrancy of the parish.

Financial report: Father Stan and Rhonda Rother presented the balance sheet and answered any questions. It was brought up that the weekly contribution report is showing a decline in envelope contributions. The parish is very viable, but the weekly collection is no longer covering the day to day expenses each month. Rhonda advised that the two baby changing stations have been installed in the bathrooms and that an LCD unit and case were purchased with the \$500 Catholic United Financial grant for the Faith Formation and other programs of the parish to use.

No docket items.

Discussion of needs for the Children's Liturgy. An area rug and easel were mentioned. Lori Nicolai will discuss with the other children's liturgy leaders to see what other needs there may be.

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon: an informational program for veterans was also talked about. Discussion about having materials available for our members and visitors.

Scholarships from St. Mathias Parish: It was motioned to continue offering scholarships to St. Mathias families that send their PreSchool-8th grade students to a Catholic school. It was

motioned to up the scholarship amounts to \$1200 for grades K-8 and \$500 for Preschool. Motion to approve by Zach DeJarlais and seconded by Jennifer Kirby. Motion carried.

Liaison reports:

Catholic United Financial: The Catholic United School Raffle at St. John the Baptist is underway. Jennifer Kirby asked if it was okay to sell tickets after Mass at St. Mathias. It was approved. Scholarship application deadline is February 15th for those continuing education beyond high school.

Children's Liturgy: SEEDS program is well received. With the switch to the Saturday Mass time, there are fewer younger couples attending with their children. Needs for the future will be discussed.

Faith Formation: First Reconciliation was held January 31st at St. Mary's. The Chrism Mass for Confirmation students will be March 26th at the Cathedral. First Communion will be April 26th at St. Mathias. There was some disgruntled feedback on the Confirmation retreat requirements. Retreats are scheduled for grade 9 and grades 7&8. Bingo Saturday events made money and the matching grant money has been received from Catholic United Financial.

Liturgy: Moving into Lent. Cleaning the church was discussed that it is getting very hard to get parishioners to come and help clean so we are looking into hiring someone to do the task. Microphone: Zach will take a look at it and advise outcome.

Charitable Works: Food drive was a success over Christmas. Blood drive and diaper projects are in the works.

Cemetery: More discussion on a columbarium for St. Mathias due to water issues and about the 3 acres promised to St. Mathias that adjoin the current cemetery.

Maintenance: Windows and basement door in church and replacement of wood door in parish center project was giving the okay to proceed from the finance committee. Bids were going to be gotten. Screen door on parish center, they would look into fixing.

Archdiocesan Strategic plan: A report was made to the Archdiocese about how things are working in our deanery. Some suggestions on how it could be spread further out then just our deanery boundaries to share resources.

GROW: Need to re-group to work on continuing/implementing various parts of the plan.

Archdiocesan Chapter 11 Bankruptcy: \$500 retainer was given to attorney Mary Jo Jensen-Carter to represent about 42 parishes at this time. Want to form a 4th class of creditors to include parishes of the Archdiocese.

No additional lawsuits or letters of claim have been submitted involving St. Mathias at this time.

Father Stan is drafting a letter requesting a 3-year extension on his six year assignment as Pastor which is ending on June 30, 2015.

Father Stan also talked about community involvement. 2% tithing (about \$3000) is being budgeted each year for St. Mathias to expand its involvement in issues of the community. Part

of it last year was used to have a \$1000 scholarship for student at Randolph High School to continue education beyond high school in a Christian college. Some discussions were held that it should be offered to all HS students of St. Mathias not just those that attend Randolph.

Some other suggestions were assisting the Booster Club with ball games etc. Possibly set up a program to assist students with their homework after school.

Blue Sky:

Need to form a task force and proceed with looking at the four possibilities (1) Remodel existing school building. (2) Demolish old school and build a pole barn type building that would suit the needs of the parish. (3) Find a nearby existing building that would suit the needs of the parish. (4) Demolish and build a building attached to the church. With this we will need to start setting up some activities that could use the space such as quilting, scrapbooking, card making, community (NAMI) events etc.

Motion to adjourn and seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting in the new format will be on Tuesday, April 6th in the church basement. Lori Nicolai will get the hot dogs for the meal. Rhonda will bring buns. Additional items needed would be pickles, chips and beverages.

Respectively submitted, Rhonda Rother