

Immaculate Conception Catholic Parish  
Parish Council Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2011

The meeting was called to order by chairperson, Joe Fields at 7:04 p.m., followed by the opening prayer and Gospel Meditation led by Fr. Zygmunt and Fr. Basil.

**Members present:** Phyliss Dixon, Annie Dobbs, Dave Doudna, Joe Fields, Larry Mantei, Bob Mantei, Steve Mullins and Tammy Want.

**Members absent:** Katrina Yanish

**Staff present:** Bob Barnard, Chuck Bowman and Cindy Fields.

**Visitors present:** Grayce Barnard, Shannon Christiansen

There were no visitor comments.

**Approval of the minutes of the February 16, 2011:** Doudna moved, Mullins seconded, to approve the meeting minutes.

Steve asked about the Stations of the Cross dinner the parish council agreed to host. The dinner will be held before the Stations on Friday, April 15 at 5:30 p.m.

Fr. Basil briefly described the circumstances regarding the flower donation that was discussed at the February meeting.

Motion carried.

**Approval of the meeting agenda for March 16, 2011:** Mullins moved, Doudna seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. The following item was added for discussion under Old Business: Financial statements. Under New Business: Stations of the Cross Dinner.

### **Staff Reports**

*Community Services:* Cindy gave a brief update on the success of Mardi Gras. Those who attended enjoyed the family activity and the children had a wonderful time participating. She thought perhaps the Council might consider changing the Mardi Gras festival to a family event every other year; an adults-only party the next. She also reported the DEC kitchen inspection went very well; there were a couple of minor problems that Chuck will address.

Cindy provided the Council with a written report on her activities for the month which included Soup Kitchen activities, special events, treatment referrals, homebound family support, referrals to other social agencies and continuing activities with Women's Oxford House, the emergency shelter, United Way and Stone Soup coordination.

*Religious Education:* Bob said that religious education is beginning to wind-down for the year and gave a report on activities associated with the end of the religious education year: First Communion will take place on April 30, Confirmation on May 1. The adult religious education programs are also finishing up with four more classes to go. Next year's program will be on the Acts of the Apostles. He also noted that the youth group and Theology of the Body was going very well; the kids were engaged and seem to be enjoying it.

He told the Council that ICC will be having a confirmation retreat along with kids from Sacred Heart and Good Shepherd (Ft. Wainwright). He is still having monthly meetings with the catechists and things are going well.

Bob also said the current curriculum being used will not be updated with new material this fall, but the publisher assures him they have enough materials for use until the update takes place. He said the RE children have a community service project they will be working on – making quilts and cards for residents of the Rescue Mission.

*Maintenance:* Chuck reported that he had been busy assisting with getting ready for the DEC inspection and thanked Annie and Mike Dobbs for their help. He said he will need to do some sensor adjustment on the faucets in the restrooms and will continue to work on that. He told the Council he would be going out of town unexpectedly for a week or so and asked that volunteers vacuum the church on Friday afternoon and Monday morning in his absence. He said the sprinkler system and call box will be installed in the Spring.

### **Old Business**

*Music Ministry:* Fr. Basil addressed this issue. He told the Council he had not received Jim's emails. He said that Jim has been asking for a piano and Fr. said he would need to talk with others regarding that purchase. He said that he did not tell Jim that a piano could not be purchased. Joe read an email that he had received from Jim regarding the incident, hoping the issue was resolved. Fr. Basil indicated the issue had not been resolved.

Shannon added that she had heard comments and concerns from parishioners about the music issue. Tammy added that she has as well.

Joe reminded the Council that concerns need to be addressed with Fr. Zygmunt and Fr. Basil, Robert Hannon and Bishop Kettler.

*Financial Statements:* Phyliss spoke to this issue because it was added to the agenda at her request. She relayed a portion of a phone conversation she had recently with Fr. Zygmunt and had concerns about his statement that the parish was approaching being "in the red." She asked again if it would be possible to begin receiving the monthly financial statement at the meeting as an informational item. She thought that perhaps if fundraising needed to be done, the Parish Council could and should help.

Fr. Zygmunt stated that he was concerned that the Parish Council would become a second finance committee.

Fr. Zygmunt told the Council that Jack Tragis is working on his report and would present it to the Council at the end of the quarter. Fr. Basil noted that they were not trying to hide the information; they wanted the finances of the parish to be transparent so parishioners would know exactly how funds were being spent. Tammy said that since the parish was a non-profit, the financial information should be available to whoever asked for it. Fr. Zygmunt said that a parishioner could ask and would receive the information.

### **New Business**

There was discussion of several summer activities that are upcoming: parish picnic, Midnight Sun Festival, Golden Days and the annual Harvest Festival. The Council agreed to begin working on the parish picnic and a food concession for Golden Days. The parish picnic will be held on June 5, 2011 chaired by Tammy Want. The Golden Days concession will be chaired by Phyliss Dixon and held on the day of the Golden Days parade, July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Joe announced that the new stained glass windows for the front of the church will be ready in early June and that a dedication ceremony and celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the moving of the church to its' present location will take place on Pentecost Sunday, June 12, 2011. Joe will contact the Bishop's office to see if Bishop Kettler is available to dedicate the windows. Joe also announced that Parish Council elections will take place on May 7-8, 2011 instead of the first weekend in May due to Confirmations.

Fr. Zygmunt and Fr. Basil gave a brief report on the progress of implementing the new Roman Missal. They said there will be minor changes to the Mass; new books. The celebrants will be affected the most by the changes. Fr. Zygmunt said he would like to begin introducing parishioners to the new Missal beginning in September by taking a short period of time after Mass to explain the changes.

The Parish Council has agreed to sponsor a Stations of the Cross dinner on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> instead of a potluck. The Council will also be the presenters of the Stations that evening. Phyliss will chair the dinner portion; Steve will coordinate the presentation.

### **Member Comments**

There were no member comments.

Fr. Basil told the Council that the New American Bible has been revised.

Dixon moved; Mullins seconded, that the April Parish Council meeting be moved to Wednesday, April 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer and blessing at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by Phyliss Dixon, Secretary