

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
Parish Council Minutes
July 21, 2010

The meeting was called to order by chairperson, Joe Fields at 7 p.m.

Members present: Joe Fields, Katrina Yanish, Steve Mullins, Bob Mantei, Randy Kinsey and Phyliss Dixon.

Members absent: Xylina Kinsey, Maria Muhlenkamp, and Tammy Want.

Staff present: Bob Barnard and Cindy Fields.

Visitors present: Vicki Kinsey, Carole Hemphill and Sally Shoffstall.

Joe announced that Xylina has submitted her resignation from the Council due to work and travel plans. He will work with Vicki to determine who would be the next person with the highest votes during our recent elections to the council. An announcement of a replacement for Xylina will be made at the August 18th meeting.

Vicki Kinsey, as a spokesperson for the Finance Committee did a brief presentation to the Council on the 2010-2011 budget. The Finance Committee approved the annual budget at \$350,000.00. There were several questions from council members regarding specific areas of the budget. Vicki noted that the Finance Committee encouraged the Parish Council to sponsor and support fundraising activities in order to help defray operating costs for the church.

Approval of Minutes of June 16, 2010 Parish Council meeting:

Mullins moved, Kinsey seconded to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2010 Parish Council meeting, as amended.

Joe announced said the minutes included a motion to allow our visiting priests the use of the parish vehicle for parish business. He told council members that the priests would not be using the car due to insurance and other concerns. The diocese has a vehicle available for their use. Motion carried.

Approval of the meeting agenda for July 21, 2010:

Mullins moved, Kinsey seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The addition of posting of the council minutes on the website after approval and a hiring committee were added to New Business items. Unfinished business items were re-ordered for discussion. Motion carried.

Staff Reports:

Religious Education: Deacon Bob told the council that planning for the upcoming religious education year for children was being held. He is recruiting new catechists for the program, ordering curriculum materials. He said he would like to do a fundraiser on Valentine's Day weekend 2011. He also said the adult education program this coming year would focus on the Gospel of Matthew. He and Cindy are working together on scheduling the adult programs and evening meal preparation for the Soup Kitchen. Bob also told the council the pre-school program may need to be put on hold for the time being as the person who was interested in teaching the program may not be available.

Community Service: Cindy is still working on securing the Musher's Hall for the August 29 Harvest Festival Celebration. She told the Council that she and Joe will be out of town for their

grandson's wedding that weekend, but that she would certainly be available to assist a council member(s) in the days before she leaves. She will begin making announcements for the bulletin this week. Steve Mullins and Katrina Yanish volunteered to co-chair the Harvest Festival. Cindy also said she has been involved with meetings with Alaska's Mental Health Trust and the coalition trying to find housing and deal with other issues our street friends face, is going well. They have an attorney and grant writer in place. Work on this important issue continues. Cindy also thanked the Knights of Columbus for their presence during weekend serving times. It has made a huge difference.

Health Ministry: No report. Our nurses continue to do blood pressure and health checks during weekend serving times at the Soup Kitchen.

New Business

Adult Children of Alcoholics proposal: Discussion by council members regarding security concerns with the use of the church. There are areas of the church that are not able to be secured and locked. Scheduling a space could also be a problem, as Murphy Hall, and living room area will be in use by the parish each weeknight starting in September when adult religious education, RCIC and RCIA, and soup kitchen volunteers begin using the rooms during the evening hours.

Sally Shoffstall has provided information to the council on the program and her proposed use of the church for the group. Further discussion of this new business items was postponed until the Council's special meeting on August 4, 2010.

Touch Up of Statuary: Joe told council members he has been approached by visitors about the condition of the statues. He noted that the statute of the Blessed Virgin Mary could use some work, but that it would be costly and must be presented to the Finance Committee for their approval of the expenditures. He will keep the Council informed on the progress of the discussion.

Posting of Parish Council Meeting Minutes: Dixon moved; Mullins seconded to post approved parish council meeting minutes on the parish website, beginning with the June 16, 2010 minutes.

Phyliss will send approved minutes to Steve and to Vicki as soon as possible after the council meeting. Motion carried.

Hiring Committee: Vicki Kinsey addressed the council regarding the retirement of Terry from our parish staff. Terry's effective day of retirement will be September 1, 2010. Vicki suggested that in the absence of a priest/parish administrator, the council should consider a hiring committee. The committee would consist of 3-5 people to assist with the posting of the position, defining the job description, and assisting with interviewing the candidates. The position will be advertised in the parish bulletin. It is planned that the committee of council volunteers would meet several times during this hiring process. Parish council members Joe Fields, Randy Kinsey and Bob Mantei will be part of the committee, along with other staff.

Unfinished Business

Fundraising idea: Several ideas were discussed for fundraising throughout the year. Suggestions included publishing a church directory, either in book form or on disc. Self-guided or docent tours could be done through the summer months. It was also suggested that perhaps the Council could update and re-publish the Centennial Celebration booklet.

Mullins moved, Mantei seconded to explore the possibility of re-producing the Centennial Booklet as a fundraising activity. Motion carried.

Catholic Schools of Fairbanks Collection: The parish council had previously discussed and approved a second collection during the month of August that would benefit the schools.

Dixon moved, Mullins seconded to hold a second collection during the weekend of August 14-15 to benefit the Catholic Schools of Fairbanks. Motion carried.

Renovation/Restoration: Joe Fields gave an update on the current renovation project of replacing the front windows and readying them for installation of the new stained glass windows tentatively scheduled for April 2011. There are several other projects still in the works, including the siding of the church, re-insulating areas of the vestibule and building a storage shed on the grounds. After discussion, it was thought that the most likely project to be completed soon would be the shed. It is necessary to store mowing/snow removal equipment. At the present time, whichever equipment is not in season must be hauled downstairs to the basement.

Mullins moved, Kinsey seconded to build a storage shed upon the approval of the Finance Committee. Motion carried.

Five-Year Plan: Work is still being done on one section of the plan at this time. After much discussion about the importance of making sure the entire plan was ready by the August council meeting, it was decided a special meeting would need to be held to complete the plan.

Kinsey moved, Mullins seconded to postpone additional work on the Five-Year Plan until August 4, 2010 during a special meeting. Motion carried.

The Parish Council will have a special meeting on August 4 at 6:30 p.m. to complete work on the Five-Year Plan.

Visitor comments

Sally Shoffstall asked for clarification of the date the council would discuss her proposal for the Adult Children of Alcoholics meetings at ICC. Joe said it would be on the agenda for the special meeting on August 4.

Member comments

None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by Phyliss Dixon, Secretary