

St. Nicholas Parish

Parish Council

November 22, 2011

The parish council meeting was called to order by Keith Dreiling at 5:34 p.m. and Fr. Daryl led in an opening prayer. Members present for the meeting included, Fr. Daryl, Keith Dreiling, Greg Thyfault, Steve Keil, Matt Allen, Bill Weber, Eileen Roberts and Ramie Wasinger. Minutes from the previous meeting will be presented at the December meeting.

The council extended an invitation to Andy Beck for a presentation on the Faith and Family Center. He began by indicating that the campaign process began in August and there were three (3) phases outlined.

- Phase I This is a private, personal ask by Fr. Daryl of roughly 30 parish families. There are an additional 50 parish families that will receive a personal solicitation by committee members.

- Phase II Based upon the success of Phase I, the second phase will target an additional 180 parish families for financial support of the project.

- Phase III This will be a letter campaign to remaining parish families and friends for financial support.

There have been Faith and Family presentations to the Ladies Guild, Knights of Columbus, Finance Committee and now an education presentation to the parish council. The committee recognizes that an additional campaign in progress for the extension of 7th and 8th grades for catholic education. That campaign is attempting to secure 3.6 million dollars which is the equivalent of \$6.00 per week to their target group. The St. Nicholas Faith & Family Center has a 3.1 million dollar project and this presentation will to provide information to the parish council and ask that they support the project in prayer, financial support, verbal support and as volunteers. It was mentioned that people opposed to the Center have been somewhat vocal, while supporters are quiet. The parish council is asked to provide verbal support and step forward as leaders in support of the project. Upon completion of the presentation, Andy Beck thanked the council for the opportunity to make a presentation and left the meeting.

After the presentation, Greg Thyfault, Eileen Roberts and Ramie Wasinger voiced testimonials in support of the project and encouraged support toward the project.

Discussion then turned to the Spiritual Life of the Parish. Positive comments were stated regarding the changes in the Liturgy. The council thought Fr. Daryl has done a good job of explaining the reasons for the changes to the congregation. It was mentioned that as part of the new format, songs and hymns will not be announced, yet singing is encouraged. The council thinks it is appropriate to obtain an additional “song board” to display the songs and hymns to the congregation.

Fr. Daryl announced that the parish will display a “campaign thermometer” beginning around December 4th which will track progress of Faith & Family Center funding.

Commission reports were as presented in the minutes.

Keith Dreiling announced that he had made revisions to the parish constitution and that the document will be presented for formal ratification at a later date.

Fr. Daryl mentioned that High Plains Roofing had finished the roofing project earlier in the day. His inspection noticed some of the rubber had bubbled and that he would visit with Tom regarding the discovery. Fr. also mentioned that some of the completion delay was attributable to a new skylight in the bell tower.

There was no Stewards of Hope report as Scott Watford was not in attendance.

Keith Dreiling mentioned that he had a conversation with the Wes Leiker family regarding the flag project. In the conversation, Wes indicated that their family planned to supply the flags and change them when necessary. Keith informed them of conditional support from the Building & Grounds Committee and that the requested repairs and improvements may be delayed until Spring and warmer weather.

Discussion then turned to the lighting of the St. Nicholas of Myra statue in front of the church. The intent of the lights is to display the statue and make it visible to all who approach the church. Fr. Daryl thinks additional lighting is needed on the statue and that current fixtures cannot be manipulated to provide adequate lighting. Ramie Wasinger indicated that he would take the issue back to the Building & Grounds Committee. In other comments it was mentioned that the stonework and appearance of the project was positive and the council thanked all those who were involved in the project. It was also mentioned that Toby has seen it and has given his approval.

Announcements then included:

New Parishioner for the month is Brian Kitchen.

Coffee & Conversation will be on December 11th Liturgy

Christmas Decoration will be on December 18th

Communal Penance Service will be on Tuesday, December 20th.

Fr. Daryl gave the parish council an update on the expansion of catholic schools to include a 7th and 8th grade. The committee has set up a “St. Thomas More Society” to solicit funding for the curriculum expansion. He indicated that it is estimated that start-up costs were being estimated at around \$200,000 and that an annual operating budget of \$418,000 would be needed. He indicated that as a part of the Heartland Parishes, St. Nicholas should support and promote the endeavor both financially and prayerfully, even though St. Nicholas has its own capital campaign.. Upon further discussion, Ramie Wasinger made the following motion: The Parish Council requests that the Finance Committee review the financial condition of St. Nichols Parish and discover an avenue to make a \$2,000.00 contribution to the “St. Thomas More Society” for 2011, and to address a budget line item that will provide an additional \$2,000.00 annual commitment for the next four (4) years, for a total contribution from St. Nichols Parish of \$10,000.00. Greg Thyfault seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

As we approach Christmas, the next parish council meeting is being scheduled for the second Tuesday on the month and will be held on December 13th with a pot luck dinner for council members and spouses at the Rectory beginning at 5:30 p.m. A sign up sheet for the pot luck includes:

Fr. Daryl	Meat Dish
Keith Dreiling	Salad
Greg Thyfault	Beverages
Eileen Roberts	Meat Dish
Matt Allen	Desert
Steve Keil	Potato Casserole
Ramie Wasinger	Vegetable Tray
Bill Weber	(Unable to Attend)
Michael Reif	Desert
Teresa Heimann	Side Dish

There being no Chairperson’s Report or Pastor’s Report, the meeting adjourned with a closing prayer from Fr. Daryl.

Respectfully Submitted: Ramie Wasinger