

St. Mary Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday
May 10, 2005

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm by Ray Moon, Chairperson. **Opening song:** *One Spirit, One Church*, followed by recitation of St. Mary's Mission Statement. **Scripture:** *John 20:19-23* read by Dawn Olander. The questions: *Do we have our spiritual door locked? Is our rejoicing visible; do we believe our sins are forgiven?* Led to reflection by Council.

Approval of minutes: April meeting minutes approved as amended.

Introductions-

New Councilors – Paul Stewart, Julie Schultz & Ron Gilles. (Mary Campbell is already on Council.)

Student Councilors – Liz LeGant & Brent Zydowicz

Fr. Chuck Schramm – Newly assigned Pastor of St. Mary. Fr. Chuck was at St. Mary previously from 1971 – 1978.

Fr. Tony & Mondy, his interpreter – Visiting from our sister parish in Latiboliere, Haiti

Haiti medical mission participants – Donna Moon, Yvonne DuCharme & Barbara Chalupka

Haiti committee – Rosalie Gerlach

Buildings & Grounds committee – Joe Rausch

Newly appointed Trustee – Bob Stollenwerk

Fr. Tony addressed the Council – Mondy interpreted

Fr. Tony expressed their happiness at being invited to visit St. Mary. As one church and one mission, we will continue to pray together. “Thank you for your welcome.” Every time St. Mary's sends people to help us in Latiboliere, our parishes become stronger... building love, respect and solidarity. Everything you have done is good, not only for the church, but for humanity. A good job is being done by the medical missions, where there hasn't been a doctor in several years. (A medical mission team of 13 just returned after a week in Latiboliere.)

In a school of more than 600 students, food is provided by Catholic Relief Services. Because of the help of Bob Gerlach, who is in our hearts, we can use the water cistern to prepare our own food.

There is no longer a problem of lack of water in the school. A Mass of thanksgiving was said for Bob Gerlach. Another cistern is now being built.

The coffee sales project is also helping the women of Latiboliere.

Building of a community center and latrine are two new projects which will serve the school and the dispensary.

The Happy Homes project is helping renovate thatched roof houses. Fr. Tony expressed gratitude for all of the supplies sent in sea containers, and for the Mission Sunday donations. Money goes to help the chapel schools. “Our presence here today is to thank you and to thank God. Love is handed on *hand to hand.*”

Fr. Tony responded to questions:

There is a central parish with seven chapels surrounding it. In each chapel there is a school for parents who cannot afford to pay for education. There are 40 – 100 students in each school. On the next medical mission, the plan is to go to the chapels to hold clinics.

On the last medical mission, home visits were made to the homebound. Two young adults were taken to the HHF, Haitian Health Foundation, for more intensive care.

After the first cistern was built, there was a six-month drought. It was not known for those six months if the cistern would be filled with water. Money for drilling wells in Latiboliere is their hope now.

Review of handouts – Ray Moon

Committee reports distributed.

Pastor's report – Fr. Art Heinze

First Communion was celebrated by 120 children during six weekend liturgies. The First Eucharist was concelebrated by Fr. Art & Fr. Todd. Jim Beuscher was thanked for an excellent job in his first effort as Director of Christian Formation.

The rally for Regina Bakala was moving, touching, and very painful. The unintended consequences of laws meant to keep us safe really makes a person think as a citizen. There is now \$10,000 in the 'Save Regina' fund. Paul Cesarz commented that some members of the Common Council are meeting with law-makers to see if they can rally their support.

Fr. Todd interviewed six applicants for the Adult Family Ministry position that will be vacated by Sr. Josephine Marie Flynn in June. The offer extended by Fr. Art to Wendy Rappe' was accepted. She has a PhD in Theology and is a dynamic person.

Four people had applied for the assistant secretary/bulletin editor position vacated by Sybil Grandeck at the end of April. Shari Wass was hired for the part-time position.

Mrs. Nelson is retiring from teaching. A middle school religion teacher will need to be hired.

Finance: Up approximately \$35,000 at this time. The oldest section of the school roof has to be replaced. It will be costly because of the asbestos removal. The bid is \$147,000.

Donations to the church went specifically to the Reconciliation Chapel and Eucharistic Chapel.

Buildings and Grounds report – Joe Rausch.

Replacement of several rotted doors is planned. They will match the newer school doors. \$10,000 for four aluminum doors is the best quote obtained; and the best quality for the money. The doors will meet all codes and standards.

Approval is needed for weed barrier for all of the islands and planted areas around the church property. There is a plan in discussion to replace the old bark with stone. The current bark is pretty well gone after two years and is not an economical solution. It is also very messy on the playground. The process of replacing bark is very costly and other ideas are being generated. One idea is to have parishioners 'do the ground work' and prepare the ground surfaces for a professional contractor. Joe distributed a priority list of maintenance needs. A mold abatement program is needed for the old narthex area.

The Building and Grounds Committee is asking for approval for replacement of the four rotted doors. A motion was made to accept the proposal as presented. Council voted unanimously to approve the expenditure for four new doors.

The 'adopt an island' program has gotten off the ground. Twenty islands have been identified, with seven islands yet to be adopted. The Building and Grounds committee suggested that Council adopt an island. It was recommended that any further discussion on management of the islands be 'tabled' at this time. More data is needed to determine the best option.

A motion was made by Paul Cesarz for a proxy to allow St. Mary Parish to solicit bids and award a contract to repair the school building roof: subject to a final analysis and recommendation by the Finance Committee, our Trustees, and Pastor; and report back to the Parish Council by June, 2005. The motion passed.

Youth ministry report - Brent Zydowicz

A crew of twelve will be going to the Cathedral on Saturday, May 14th, to prepare the ground for the sodding project. Sodding will be done the following week.

Four vehicles (8-passenger vans) will be going to the Indian reservation on June 25th. A total of 29 people will be going on the trip.

A retreat and service trip to Springfield, IL is planned for June 26 – 28. Students will stay overnight at the Franciscan convent and then pack sea containers for Haiti.

Fire alarm procedures during Mass – Tom Kronschnabl

Tom Kelm, Maintenance Manager, will train Hospitality Ministers on the fire alarm procedures and evacuation process during Mass. A handout was distributed so Councilors could follow along with the seven points to remember. The fire alarm continues to sound until the Hales Corners Fire Dept. arrives to reset the fire alarm panel.

Cluster meeting update – Mary Matestic

Mary reported on a cluster meeting with Mark Peters. Archdiocesan Parish Consultant, Mark Peters, met to discuss social justice issues. Each parish will take a theme and talk on the topic; ending with a Retreat in Lent.

Next Cluster meeting to be held at St. John the Evangelist on May 24th.

Fall Retreat – Theresa Illingworth

Theresa has been investigating possible locations for the Council Retreat. The Sienna Center in Racine has accommodations for Friday evening to Saturday after lunch on September 9th and 10th. The total cost would be approx. \$1,000 or approximately \$50.00/person. Consensus was to go ahead with plans.

Closing prayer: *The Lord's Prayer*

Meeting adjourned: 9:45 pm

Minutes submitted by: Linda Jaeschke, Recording Secy.

Present:

Paul Cesarz	Tim Welch
Theresa Illingworth	John Roubik
Mary Matestic	Tom Kronschnabl
Tom Grinker	Ray Moon
Dawn Olander	Mary Campbell
Fr. Todd Budde	Patti Ceille
Dawn Olander	Mary Campbell
Dan Paruzynski	Clem Budny
Ray Backe	Fr. Art Heinze
Alyssa Mueller	Elizabeth LeGant
Brent Zydowicz	Paul Stewart
Julie Schultz	Ron Gilles
Excused:	Brian Lownik
Matt Panhans	Tom Kessenich