

MINUTES

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, July 21, 2010

The St. Bridget Parish Council Meeting was called to order by Mark Sweeney on Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Mark opened the meeting with a prayer.

Present: Msgr. Carr, David Anderson, Charlene Bechely, Tim Corbett, Joe Jowaisas, Augie Keller, Michael Kozak, James Melvin, Sean Prince, Fr. David Stanfill, Paul Sinclair, Mark Sweeney, Marie Swider, Donna Weber, Kay White.

Absent: Elizabeth Martin, John Smith

The minutes of the June meeting, which were emailed to members, were approved.

Maria Morrison, Chairperson of Welcoming Committee was introduced as guest speaker.

Maria said that Msgr. wants to change the parish welcoming process and she has been in touch with St. Edwards, St. Mary's, St. Michael's, St. Benedicts and St. James Episcopal to learn how they welcome new members to their parishes. All parishes do a great job.

Maria explained how **St. Edwards** begins with letter from the pastor, has dinner and movie, tour of parish, question and answer session. They continue with invitations to the monthly parish breakfasts which serve 400 people. St. Edwards has new detailed registration form (on line).

St. Mary's has mandatory meeting on the 3rd Sunday for new parishioners. Consists of talk by pastor, breakout, explanation of their binder (which tells all you need to know about what, how, when etc. of parish). Registration forms are filled out at the meeting.

Both parishes involved staff, key parish leaders in the welcoming process because these people are very knowledgeable about the parish.

Questions asked Maria were:

- **Do the parishes have requirements for people to being accepted as a parishioner?** No
- **How many new members does St. Bridget get yearly? Lose Yearly?** Not known. (Kimberly, Frances would have info.)
- **How many parishioners use envelopes?** Kimberly would have info.
- **Are Greeters at Mass part of Welcoming Committee?** No (Could they be?)

Parish Council Members to work on Welcoming Task Force are: **Joe Jowaisas, Elizabeth Martin.**

Census Discussion: Msgr. Carr said that figures not current . We need to re-census parish and ask leadership of Parish Council. He has asked new parishioners why they choose St. Bridget.

Answers: Pretty Church; School and Youth Program (recently). Not all parishioners get involved in the activities of the parish. Msgr. gave out a draft he compiled of his guidelines for membership in St. Bridget parish. Discussion followed on how to do census, and it was suggested that we form a Census Task Force. **Paul Sinclair, Jackie Morrison, Donna Weber volunteered to be on Census Task Force.**

Parish Planning: Parish staff going through parish planning suggestions. Parish Council will be in charge of accountability aspect of parish planning.

Youth Minister: Sean Prince said that **new Youth Minister, Mark Kowalski** will start on 8/23/10. The Heart Workcamp was very successful. 122 youth participated (double last year's youth). Funding was approx. \$50,000, half paid by each youth participant and half by Youth fund raising. Committee already planning for next year. Diocesan office may use St. Bridget Heart Workcamp as model for diocese. Diocesan areas in need may also be partnered with parishes in diocese.

School Roof Update: Handout given out. Work to be completed this summer.

Pulse of the Parish: Council members signed up to be liaisons with these parish committees:

- Mens's Ministry and K of C: Mike Kozak
- Human Concerns: David Anderson
- Communications: Kay White
- Liturgy; and Youth Ministry: Marie Swider
- Music Ministry: Donna Weber
- Diocesan: Tim Corbett
- Finance: Mark Sweeney
- Stewardship: Joe Jowaisas and Jim Melvin
- Women's Ministry: Elizabeth Martin

These committees reported the following:

- **Finance:** **Mark Sweeney** reported that Offertory up \$24,000 at end of FY. (1-1/2%) and expenses were down \$21,000, Diocesan assessments up \$47,000. Parish in good shape. **St. Bridget School** loan down to \$1,537,000. Rate locked into for 5 yrs. Income statement needs to be refined and revised. Remaining pledges are approx. \$500,000.
- **Communications:** **Kay White** reported that the Church and School Websites are being updated. Also, bulletin layout being revised, tools for use at office front desk are being formulated; working on footprint of parish; working on annual report; brochure for organ project created

Parish Council thanked Sean Prince for his wonderful work at St. Bridget and expressed their best wishes for him in the future. We believe he will be an excellent priest! Sean then closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Meyer
Recording Secretary

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 18, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.