

MINUTES

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, January 20, 2010

The St. Bridget Parish Council meeting was called to order by John Smith on Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was opened with a prayer.

Present: Msgr. Carr; David Anderson, Tom Bliley; Tim Corbett; Kim Hulcher; Joe Jowaisas; Sean Prince; Billy Reid; John Smith; Mark Sweeney; Donna Weber and Kay White.

Absent: Frank deVenoge; Charlene Bechely; Fr. Matthias; Kristin Palumbo; Marie Swider.

Chuck Botagie, a guest speaker and parish liaison to the Va. Catholic Conference, explained that the VCC represents the two Va. Catholic Bishops in public policy matters.

One of the 2010 goals for the St. Bridget legislative team of the VCC is to educate the parish on the responsibility of Faithful Citizenship. A St. Bridget Sign-Up-Day is scheduled for Jan 23/24 after Mass. A website www.vacatholic.org has been established whereby email subscribers can be alerted as to issues being considered by lawmakers.

The VCC is also participating in the March for Life in D.C on Jan 22. The parish team also wants to develop a plan to discuss issues with representatives between sessions.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Liturgy: Donna Weber

- Alan Bean was pleased with Christmas liturgies.
- Hasselmans Harp Concert – Jan. 22 at 7:00 p.m. in church.
- American Boychoir scheduled for Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m.
- An organ scholar from U of R will play weekly during senior year.

Stewardship: Tom Bliley

- Second collection this Sunday for Haiti. Our own parishioners who were stranded in Haiti will speak at the Masses
- Pledges still behind last year.

Finance Council: Mark Sweeney

- Church finances seem to be in good shape. Revenues up \$20,000-\$30,000 over last year. Expenses down. Net Income up \$53,000 YTD.
- F.C good group; have managed parish finances well during past year. They are enacting a 5-Yr. Plan.

Men's Ministry: Mark Sweeney

- Plan to start meeting at 6:30 a.m. instead of 6:45a.m.
- Bought another apologetics book.
- Good participation in group.

St. Bridget School: Kay White

- Catholic School week 1/31 to 2/6. Each day students learn about history of school. Learned that Msgr. Carr taught 2 religion classes years ago.

- Open House 1/31/10 to kick off Catholic Schools week. Meet new principal and see newly renovated school. See children's art exhibit.
- Ash Wednesday Retreat with Fr. Renninger.
- Children collected \$493 for Haiti.

Seniors: Donna Weber

- Tour of Holocaust Museum scheduled 2/11/10.
- On 3/11 Seniors will have anointing of the sick, a soup luncheon and sing along to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.
- In conjunction with St. Bridget School – will participate in Art Show in MPH on 5/7/10.

Women's Ministry: Kim Hulcher

- In-House Retreat on 2/27/10. Topic: Year of the Priest.
- Women's bible study: "Discerning the Voice of God" by Priscilla Shirer begins Jan. 27, runs for 7 weeks.

Communications: Kay White

- Reported that communications have gotten better. Telephone volunteers have improved.

Youth Ministry: Sean Prince

- Search committee moving forward with applications for Youth Minister. Phone interviews start soon. Applications open until end of January.

PARISH PLANNING PROCESS:

- Next meeting scheduled for 1/29. Will discuss: census; pipe organ, school roof; various projects and their priority.
- Evaluate business part of church and school and how contracts might be combined to save \$.
- Discussion followed on the following: How to make parish membership more authentic; criteria for being counted as a member; using Liturgy as a test for a 2 year commitment to service; more efficient use of space in buildings.
- Mark Sweeney suggested the need for an organizational chart for staff and ministries of church, school.
- Suggested use of Homilies: Put on line; have printed/recorded to take to sick.
- Discussion on bulletin. How it could be improved.
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DEVELOPMENT: (Reported by Sean Prince for Frank deVenoge)

- Direct Mail Mini campaign conducted in Dec. for pledges to church and school met with limited success.
- Organ committee formed along with a sub-committee to plan fund raising for new organ. This will be done very quietly.
- Development to help Allen Bean get sponsors for American Boychoir. Our cost is \$7500. Any funds secured in excess will be split between Human Concerns and Music Ministries.
- School Annual Fund: Letters of solicitation to be mailed in March/April. Goal-\$110,000.

- Retire the Debt: A 6 channel approach designed to help raise \$1M remaining school renovation debt.
- Annual Golf Tournament: Date set for May 14 @ Glenwood Golf Course.

ELECTION PROCESS:

- Mary Martha Thedieck says that now is the time to start the process for PC elections. M. Siewers has compiled complete “how to” process. See MM.

PC GOALS FOR 2010:

- Kim said that she, Frank and John will meet and see direction PC needs to take this next year.

If you are still with me during this lengthy recording of the minutes, a bit of humor:

When guest speaker, Chuck Bogatie finished his presentation, he said that “*since he didn’t have anything else to do*”, he might just stay and listen in on the meeting. Msgr. Carr, “well, that sure lowers the bar!”

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Meyer
Recording Secretary

Next meeting of Parish Council is on Wednesday, March 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the PCMR.