

ST. MARTIN'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

St. Martin's Parish Council met on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Members present: Father Anthony Chandler, Pam Foushee (Chairperson), Regina Bennett, Debbie Foushee, Jerry Lancaster, Roselle Muse, Nick Powers, Anita Seymour, Daphne Whelan, and Elaine Vowels.

Members absent: Deacon Bob Caspar, Deacon John Richard Whelan, Melinda Banks, Gloria Ritter, and Youth Representative.

Others present: Finance Committee: Alton Pike and Secretary: Barbara Muncy.

Opening: Pam called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. The minutes from the October 8, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Daphne made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Debbie seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as written. The next parish council meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 25, 2010 at 6:45 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Father Chandler:

- The celebration for St. Martin's feast day went very well.
- A bonfire will be planned for spring.
- The November Senior Citizen dinner will be rescheduled, possibly for February 2010.
- There was a turnout of about 56 people for the parish cleanup day on November 21. The church grounds were cleaned up and seven trees planted in place of trees removed. Father Chandler thanked everyone who helped. The backside of the graveyard will be done at the next cleanup in 2010. The Meade RECC will be looking at the electric lines in front of church to see what can be changed due to the trees.

Administration Committee: Jerry Lancaster.

- The rectory bathroom and kitchen have been completed.
- Electrical improvements: There is now a light at the back steps behind the school. St. Martin's Center, church and rectory have been hooked up to a portable generator which will automatically go on when there is an emergency.
- Projects being planned are to replace the concrete walkways around the church, clean and strip cafeteria floor, repair tiles in cafeteria and throughout the school building, and paint the parish hall floor.

Father Chandler:

- Concrete bids for the front of church, to include the removal of bricks, new steps, to include lighting in the steps, new railings for all church steps, and replacing all concrete around the church were reviewed and discussed. Four bids were received. The parish counsel unanimously agreed to hire Bryan Carwile Custom Floor and Building Service from Custer to do this project. Father Chandler will write the required letter to the Archdiocese to take the funds from parish savings for the project. Approval from the Archbishop must be received before the project can begin, which will be in the spring. The project will take approximately two weeks to complete.

Finance Committee: Alton Pike.

DRE Report: Regina Bennett.

- Father Chandler and Kevin and Nicole Whelan have worked up an Adult Education Program for the parish. The schedule is available in the back of church. A program will be held monthly beginning December 2.
- The Parish Library will be open the third Saturday and Sunday after mass. It will also be open on Wednesday evenings during Religious Education. Michelle English is assisting Regina with the Library on Wednesdays.
- The gym is open on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. prior to Religious Education.
- There are 167 students in Religious Education this school year. Sixteen second graders and one fourth grader have made their First Reconciliation.

- There are six children in RCIA.
- Classes for thirteen RCIA participants from St. Martin and St. John have been combined. The Rite of Welcoming is scheduled for Sunday, November 29.
- The seventh and eighth grade Youth Ministry does not have a parent leader. However, parents are assisting with their events and the upcoming Christmas caroling scheduled on December 9.
- The High School Youth Ministry (11th & 12th grades) are helping make Christmas baskets with Tim Curran.
- The ninth and tenth graders will have Youth Ministry once a month beginning in January. Confirmation classes will also begin in January.
- There will be no Religious Education classes on December 16, 23 and 30.
- Regina was able to get a special price on the Advent Prayer books with 300 books for \$30.00 from The Word Among Us.
- Melinda Banks will be coordinating Children's Church during Advent. Any child three through seven who has not made their First Communion may attend.
- The Mom's Adult Prayer Group meets the first and third Monday of each month.

Service Committee: Elaine Vowels.

- Food costs for funerals have been reduced by cutting back on meat trays and eliminating cheese trays. There have been no food shortages with the changes.

New Business:

- Debbie has made new altar cloths for Advent. Decorating the church for Christmas is scheduled for Wednesday, December 23 after 8:30 a.m.
- Pam noted that anyone wishing to use or rent the gym or buildings on the property must have home owners insurance valued at \$100,000.00 or use the Archdiocesan Insurance. This is Archdiocesan Policy. Church sponsored events are automatically covered by the church insurance. The cost to have insurance, if needed through the Archdiocese is \$95.00.
- Father Chandler thanked Jerry for organizing the cleanup day and Nick for securing donations for the seven trees.
- The first meeting of the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign will be held on December 3. Father will be contacting parishioners for help. The Archdiocese requires that the Pastor, Finance Committee Chairperson, Parish Council Chairperson, Pace Setter Member, and Parish Bookkeeper be among the members. The parish will keep half of the money collected for the campaign. The goal is \$338,000.00.
- The architect report was reviewed from JRA Architects concerning the proposed updating of the church. The inspection, testing and assessment of the church and asbestos in the ceilings were discussed. No problems were found below the church tower. Structure problems are above the tower. The previous tuck pointing was not done well. Prices for the removal of asbestos in the choir loft and ceiling at the doors in the back of church, versus the cost of removing all of the asbestos from the ceilings was discussed. The total price of \$108,344.00 includes removal and disposal of all asbestos. After much discussion, the parish council unanimously agreed that all asbestos should be removed from the church. Photos of damaged areas to walls and ceiling and tuck pointing were reviewed. The parish council also unanimously agreed to remove the proposed painting above the altar. Council members want to be sure the proposal includes repair and painting of the altars. Father Chandler will request a new proposal with the changes from the architect.
- Father Chandler has received a \$15,000.00 check from the insurance to repair the damage to the gym floor. Other repairs needed to the gym are replacing damaged ceiling tiles with holes. There are no leaks in the gym roof since the roof was replaced. The ceiling will be repaired and the gym painted before the floor is repaired. The Maintenance Committee will decide when this work will be done. The heating system is working well.
- Mass will not be held in the gym this Christmas.

Closing: Anita made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Nick seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. **The next meeting will be held on January 25, 2010 in the cafeteria.**

Submitted by: Barbara Muncy, Secretary

