

**St. Francis DeSales**  
Parish Pastoral Council  
Minutes from the Meeting of  
September 22, 2009

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**In Attendance:** Francie Hiebel, Jean Flowers, Lynn Richardson, Chris Lesch, Mark Mauter, Martin Joyce, Luke Nutter, Karen Lutze, Deb Shelly, Kelleen Albert, Marilyn Messick, Jim Guinta, Tony Wright, Father Bob, Eric Wright, Sue Grindrod, Nancy Shonebarger and Matt Tanner.

**Guests:** None

**Excused:** Marian Skeen and Steve Schorger

**Absent:** None

- The meeting began with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Day Chapel.
- Father Bob opened the meeting with a prayer.
- The Parish Council Mission Statement and the Parish Mission Statement were read aloud by all present.
- The August 25th meeting minutes were approved.

**Pastor's Report:**

*Pre-School* – Pre School has begun and is going well.

*School Letter* – Father will be sending out a letter to parents of students in the school clarifying volunteering and volunteer hours. Other parishes charge the full amount of tuition if you don't do your full volunteer hours. We didn't want to do that and just want to charge the hours you didn't do and want to instill the social importance of volunteering. We have some families that donate a large number of hours and others that don't. We want all to do their share of volunteering.

*Generations Stewardship Campaign* – We have had a great response to the advertising in the Generations magazine and this is printed at no cost to St. Francis. The Generations Team is working on the call center, which will be held on November 1, 2009.

Part of the Generations Campaign includes refurbishing a small pew and setting it next to those not done. This will show what they should look like and what they now look like. The Generations Team believes when people see what their money is going for (e.g., pews, windows, etc.) it will encourage people to give generously in the offertory. People might even come forward and indicate they want to cover the cost of refurbishing a pew.

*School Advisory Board* - When Father meets with the School Advisory Board, he will remind them they need to appoint someone from their board to represent them on the Parish Council.

*Newark Catholic Advisory Board* – A Parish Council Member sets on the Newark Catholic Advisory Board and represents the Parish Council. Because of the size of St.

Francis, we can have three representatives sit on the Newark Catholic Advisory Board. We currently have two people. We can appoint a third person for one year and then have the parish vote on a person for that position during next years elections. Father will leave the decision of what to do up the Parish Council.

*Dominican Center (Swank Building)* – We were awarded \$17,000 for repairs caused by freezing pipes last winter by the insurance company. The necessary pipe work was conducted and we are holding off doing the cosmetic repairs until we have a better idea of how it will be used and we aren't at that point to make those types of decisions.

When the floor is put in, the pews will be stored in the Swank Building, so we don't want to start any renovations.

It was suggested to put a film across the front windows to cover up the clutter that will be caused when the pews are in the building so it doesn't look so bad. Father Bob will talk to the Maintenance Committee about this.

*Parish Self Study* – We are waiting for a response from the Diocese.

*Church Renovations* - We are looking for a mid February date for the floor to be installed. When the floor is being put down, church will be held in the School gym.

*Parish Life* is going well. Father just got back from a vocations conference in Washington D.C. There will be a report about it in the Catholic Times.

### **Committee Reports:**

*Ministry Presentation:* David Burd gave a presentation on Cub Scouts. He reviewed the activities done throughout the year. They average about five campouts per year, including one Polar Bear camp outing. The group does service projects; e.g., sending care packages overseas. These service projects are very important because they help teach charity.

In the last four years the group size has gone from 14 to 58. The grades involved are 1<sup>st</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Activities are associated with virtues so that they can experience it and live it.

From hearing the activities and excitement of Mr. Byrd, it is obvious why the Cub Scout Pack is so successful.

The two fundraisers that support all the activities are the pancake breakfast and popcorn sales.

*Picnic* – Reviewed who is picking up tables and chairs. Lynn Richardson is picking up the Bouncy House. Martin Joyce will bring the grill. Donations are still needed for door prizes.

Tents: The Knight of Columbus will be setting up one tent and Luke Nutter will be setting up his tent.

*Parish Festival* – The chair people for the Parish Festival this year are Derk Myers and Mike Windholtz.

*Youth Ministry* - About 20 people went on a Youth Ministry trip; it was a great experience.

*Constitution* – The constitution was voted on and approved as submitted. It was suggested it be put on the St. Francis de Sales website.

*Communication* – Eric Wright reviewed a couple different types of Angelus cards that were available and the cost associated with each. Eric will e-mail out what some of the cards look like. The Parish Mission statement will not be on the cards because it just doesn't fit properly. We will run by Father Bob and see what he believes to be appropriate.

Karen Lutze and Lynn Richardson are new members to the Communication Committee and will work with Eric Wright and Jim Guinta.

*Liturgy* - This is the “Year of the Priest.” Deacon Steve will be giving whatever Priest is saying the Mass a blessing at the end of Mass.

### **New Business:**

*Pew Refurbishment* – The Parish Council was positive about giving families an opportunity to sponsor the refurbishing all of part of or part of a pew. Several ways were reviewed how to recognize those individuals or families that give to renovating pews; e.g., little tags, a plaque in the church on all who gave, etc. No decision was made how to recognize families that contributed or even if there should be recognition.

*Shaking Hands* – Some people are concerned about shaking hands during the Sign of Peace at Mass because of the potential of catching a cold, flu, etc. It was mentioned shaking hands is optional. When we thought about it, one could catch a cold from the hymnals, touching the pews, opening the door, etc. No changes were recommended.

*Large Print Bulletin* – The Communication Committee will check out the possibility of getting large print bulletins.