

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
FEB. 12, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order.

Council members present: Eloise Anderson, Cathy Chenu-Campbell, Shaaron Gilson, Judy Guardalabene, Richard Hernandez, Linda Johnston-Panattoni, Christine Morse Galves, Scott Olling, Dennis Philippart, Rosalie Rashid, Bob Reid, Steve Tholcke, Janet Vitt, Fr. Anthony

WELCOME

Scott Olling has agreed to join the Parish Council. M/S/A to ratify the email vote regarding Scott's election to the Council; thanks to Scott for being willing to serve.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Janet led the prayer and facilitated faith sharing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from last month were approved with one correction.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Staff had a discussion during their retreat about their job duties. Each staff member will review their job description with Fran over the next few months.

Fr. Anthony would like to have the Parish Council more involved, and involved earlier, in his decision-making process. To facilitate this, he will email the Pastor's Report to the Council about 2 weeks prior to meetings. That way, Council members will be thinking about issues before the meeting and can brainstorm potential actions/resolutions. This will hopefully result in a more substantive role for the Council and fewer times when the Council is a 'rubber stamp' for Fr. Anthony's decisions.

Suggestion that we look at issues that are raised in the Pastor's report; if there are topics about which we want input we could put a question into the bulletin asking for input at our Meet & Greet.

There will be an insert letter in this week's bulletin regarding kneeling during the Eucharistic Prayer. The Bishop regards this as an important sign of unity within the Diocese and would not grant Fr. Anthony's request for permission for our parish to continue standing during this time instead. After discussion, the Council requested that the directive "please kneel" NOT be added to the worship aids (song sheets), since we do not now include directives on posture on the sheets. Instead, a reminder could be placed in the bulletin (during this time of transition).

LETTER FROM TOM McNAMARA (CFO FOR DIOCESE)

Council members would like a copy of the letter from Tom agreeing to the settlement with the Diocese; Fr. Anthony will provide this.

NEW BUSINESS

Capital Campaign Ad Hoc Committee – Linda is working to finalize costs for the projects that have been identified. A list should be ready before the March Council meeting so we can begin to prioritize the projects. The Campaign will be ready to kick off in Oct. 08. Council wants to be sure that there is good communication regarding routine maintenance projects, so that these fit into the overall scheme of what will be done as a result of the large scale capital campaign projects.

Communications Committee – A Mass Appeal issue should be ready late March; the committee is looking at ways to email issues as well as provide hard copy. A logo for the Centennial Celebration has been created, and been approved by the Centennial Committee and Communications Committee. M/S/A by the Council to support the graphic and the words on the logo, with a suggestion to continue refining the colors.

Finance Council – no report.

By-laws Committee – The committee is going to try to create a proposal to change the staggered terms of Council members so that only 1/3 of members would be leaving the Council in any one year (instead of 1/2 as the current bylaws provide). This would provide greater continuity. A proposal will be emailed before the next Council meeting.

School Advisory Committee – The school is having a bowling night on 2/22 and all are invited. The school has been considering selling scrip as a fundraiser, and is interested in approaching parishioners. The Council supports this idea as long as the underlying message is carefully crafted (For ex., “If you are shopping at these stores already, here is an opportunity to support the school while you shop...”) Remember that this is NOT a donation program. We would also prefer a regular schedule for when parishioners could buy scrip (NOT on the 1st Sunday of the month because of Francis House collection). M/S/A that the Council enthusiastically supports the basic idea, with the expectation that we be given more information both about the details of how the program works and about plans for approaching parishioners prior to the start of the program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SFP 101 is coming up. Dennis, Judy, Rosalie and Cathy can attend on Sunday; Richard, Steve and Rosalie can attend Monday night.
Steve will be gone from the March Council meeting; Janet will chair.

CLOSING PRAYER

Janet led the closing prayer; Judy volunteered to lead prayer next month.

NEXT MEETING

Mar. 11, 2008, 7 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb 24 & 25	SFP 101 (Sunday, 2/24 at 11 am; Monday, 2/25 at 7 pm)
Mar 3-6	Lenten Retreat (each evening)
May 4	Volunteer appreciation dinner
May 18 & 19	SFP 101 (Sunday at 11 am; Monday at 7 pm)
Aug. 3 & 4	SFP 101 (Sunday at 11 am; Monday at 7 pm)
Oct. 4	08 Centennial celebration begins