

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
FEB. 10, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order.

Council members present: Eloise Anderson, John Brozek, Cathy Chenu-Campbell, Bernie Evangelista, Cecilia Fisher-Dahms, Shaaron Gilson, Richard Hernandez, Dick Jaco, Bob Reid, Judy Robinson, Steve Tholcke, Janet Vitt, Fr. Anthony

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Judy led the prayer and facilitated faith sharing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from last month were approved.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

An election committee is needed for the spring Council elections. Bob, Steve and Janet will work on the committee since they have experience with the process; Bernie, Cecilia and Judy will also work on the committee to learn what is required. The committee will provide an update at the next Council meeting about the process, which seats will be open, etc.

The new chair of the Buildings and Grounds committee is Judy – she has already started working with Joe on a variety of issues.

The budget development process was reviewed. For this year, staff would like to have a rough estimate for the total budget, and they will look at allocating the budget among programs and departments along the same percentages as the current year's budget is allocated. Council should be thinking about any priorities that we would like to see considered in next year's budget.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Fr. Anthony provided an update about the friary wiring. An electrical engineer in the parish volunteered to review the wiring issues; he discovered that there are two points of service supplying the building, so that we have more total power available than previously believed. He is working on providing a complete schematic documenting the current electrical system in the building (this will cost about \$1600). The bids that we received to do the re-wiring will need to be reworked in light of the new information, and it is likely that the cost should go down. Fr. Anthony has received approval for a Diocesan loan for the project (up to a maximum of \$75,000)

The staff retreat in January went well. Fr. Anthony described a new process that staff will be using to support collaborative decision making.

We will be looking for additional ways to convey to parishioners what options they have for communicating and for resolving conflicts; Fr. Anthony will work with the Communications Committee to find avenues to remind everyone about these topics.

Discussion is continuing about the Capital Campaign. One option is to do a feasibility study before we begin the full campaign. If that feasibility study indicated that a full campaign would not be possible right now, we would then do incremental fund-

raising for particular projects. The Council expressed a strong preference for completing projects that address safety issues first, then projects that address preservation needs, and then any other projects. Fr. Anthony, Paul Rieschick, Capital committee members, and staff will meet to determine whether a feasibility study will be done.

Fr. Anthony has found out that Sacred Heart Parish will not be able to participate in the shared Youth Minister position in the near future. He will be meeting with the pastors of St. Mary's and Newman Center to see if it is feasible to go forward with the position being shared among these three parishes.

REPORTS

Finance Council – will meet next week. John will have more information at the next Council meeting.

Communications – the Mass Appeal issue is at the printer and will be mailed soon.

Mediation – there are still no issues that have been received; the committee might be looking for additional members.

School liaison – the school is meeting enrollment projections but operating at a deficit (they will make mid-year cuts to balance the budget). Tuition will be increased slightly for next year; Extension (after school care) fees will be raised more significantly because fees have not increased for the past 7 years for that program. Compared to many schools in the Diocese, ours is in relatively good shape in terms of enrollment and budget.

Welcoming Committee –SFP 101 on Feb. 8 was attended by approximately 12 individuals/families. A suggestion was made that the next SFP 101 be held after the 5:15 Mass. The Welcoming Committee is working to ensure that there are greeters working before Mass. Another suggestion was made for the Parish Council Meet & Greet to be shifted to before each Mass instead of after.

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Book sales are continuing; over 450 copies have been paid for to date. The book will be sold at a variety of upcoming events (Dinner/Dance, “Feria” school event, picnic, etc) as well as being available during the Church tours. Perspectives differ on whether we are making sufficient progress on getting the books sold.

A quilt was raffled off at the recent School Alumni event; over \$600 was raised, with all of the proceeds going to support the Steps Ministry.

Tours of the church continue to be held on Sunday afternoons; they are now on a set schedule.

Dinner/dance – we are getting nice donations of items for the auctions. About 165 tickets have been sold so far (tickets are still available).

CLOSING PRAYER

The meeting closed with prayer; Bob volunteered to lead prayer next month.

NEXT MEETING

Mar. 10, 2009, 7 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb. 21	Centennial Dinner Dance (Dante Club)
Feb. 28/Mar. 1	Meet and greet before/after all Masses
Mar. 16-19	Centennial Lenten retreat
Apr. 4/5	Meet and greet before/after all Masses
Apr. 12	Easter
Apr. 14	Parish Council meeting
Apr. 25	School fundraiser “Feria”