

St. Francis Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
Brunzman Hall

Present: Father Anthony, Sister Peggy, Christine G., Christine C., Shaaron, Eloise, Ruth, Dick, John, Ray, Lisa, Betsy, Cecilia, Judy.

Others Present: Marianne G., Penny Tafoya

1. Opening Prayer (Christine C.)
2. Review of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes: 11/10/09 and 1/5/10
4. Pastor's Report:
 - a. The school is undergoing structural testing in which rebar and concrete samples are being tested. The cost to the parish is \$25,000.
 - b. The advertisement for a music minister has been placed.
 - c. The early estimates on proceeds from the Mardi Gras celebration are \$16,500, which is more than last year.
 - d. The father of one of the students at the school tripped and fell on an uneven piece of sidewalk outside the church. Our insurance company is handling it.
5. Parishioner Comments
 - a. Penny Tafoya spoke on behalf of Sister Cathy Wood regarding a new clinic to serve the uninsured, Clara's House, at 33rd and J. Sister Claire Graham is the chair of the Board of Directors. Penny is also on the board. There was a discussion of how the process of referrals to the clinic can be streamlined. Penny will talk with Sister Cathy and the discussion will be continued at next month's meeting. There was much enthusiasm expressed for the new venture.
 - b. Eloise reported that a parishioner requested an ecumenical dinner with the Muslim and Jewish communities. Eloise is making the necessary contacts and will report back.
 - c. Shaaron brought up a parishioner's concern regarding the lack of lighting at the door to the church on the breezeway by the Friary. Fr.

Anthony
light there.
edge of the step

is aware of the situation, and has asked Joe Prassa to put a
There may also be paint or reflective material put on the
as a further safety measure.

6. Brunsmann Hall

Fr. Anthony informed the council know that Father Barry no longer wishes to have the social hall named after him. Apparently he has made this request before. There was discussion about how to handle it. Fr. Anthony's suggestion was that it be put to a vote of the parish, and it was decided that this could best be accommodated during the elections for new parish council members. There was a suggestion that Father Barry be invited to come to St. Francis to speak to the parish prior to the vote.

7. Retreat Follow-Up

The consensus was that the retreat had been a good opportunity for staff and council to get to know each other better, and will foster a better working relationship between us. The plan is for the groups to meet again after Easter. The proposed date is April 10th from 8:30am to 1:00pm. Sister Peggy was commended for her excellent job as retreat facilitator.

8. Committee Reports

a. School Board:

The school is undergoing its accreditation process, which took place from January 27-29. All appeared to go well, and there will be a report on the results at the next council meeting.

The school requests that we begin saving box tops. Containers will be placed in the back of the church and in Brunsmann Hall along with an explanation of what is needed and the benefits.

b. Election Committee:

Cecilia will bring a list next month of who will be termed out.

c. Social Services Committee:

Eloise and Christine reported that staff has the health and welfare issues of the parish under control, and therefore the ad hoc Social Services Committee would like to focus on social outreach. Some of their ideas are social events/support groups for 1) couples with young children, 2) parents of children being baptized, 3) single parents, and 4) single seniors. There was discussion of a once quarterly lunch after the noon Mass

for
that
to

families with children in the eighth grade or under. It was stressed staff would not be called on to assist with any of these events so as to avoid increasing their workload.

d. Welcoming Committee

Parish There will be a brunch after the 9:30am Mass for new members of the parish (those who have joined in the last year) on February 21st. Council members are encouraged to attend if they wish.

9. Meet and Greet:

There was a discussion regarding different methods of reaching out to parishioners: a brief announcement at the end of Mass, approaching people before Mass, talking to people during coffee and doughnuts, attending meetings such as the ones for parents of about to be baptized children. Sister Peggy will point out council members as she sees them at Mass and asks that they please stand up and be recognized when she calls their name.

10. Announcements:

Christine G. sent a card to Father Larry on behalf of the Parish Council.
Bob Reid is doing very well after his surgeries.
The docent tours are well attended, and are every fourth Sunday. They can also be arranged by request for groups of ten or more.

11. Closing Prayer

12. Meeting Adjourned 8:56pm