

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI  
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES  
April 7, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Council members present: Eloise Anderson, John Brozek, Cecilia Fisher-Dahms, Dick Jaco, Christine Morse Galves, Bob Reid, Judy Robinson, Stephen Tholcke, Janet Vitt, Fr. Anthony

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

Christine led the prayer and facilitated faith sharing.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from last month were approved with two abstentions.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Christine presided in the absence of the chair, Richard Hernandez.

**PASTOR'S REPORT**

Fr. Anthony reported that Holy Week and Easter liturgies went well.

In light of a drop in donations, the next budget will include a pay freeze for all staff members. More discussion of the budget will come in future meetings of the parish council.

The list of capital improvements and needs will be updated.

He reported on the progress of the friary rewiring project, which is proceeding along so that there will be more to report at the May meeting. In response to a question from Judy, Fr. Anthony suggested talking to Br. James about some sort of adopt-a-friar initiative to provide shelter while the rewiring project is done.

There will be a reception after the Noon Mass at the end of May to say farewell to Frs. Chuck and Franklin.

Fr. Anthony reflected on the challenge from the Lenten Retreat to adopt and eco-friendly mindset.

**REPORTS**

Finance Council –John said that in light of the 8% drop in plate collections, the finance council is looking at the 2007-08 budget as the level for the 2009-10 budget, which is being drafted now. But that still results in a shortfall of \$17,000 because of increased costs beyond our control. More discussion will occur at the May council meeting.

Communications – Christine said the Centennial Book was featured in an article in the Catholic Herald.

Welcoming Committee – Dick explained the for the next SFP 101 (the weekend of June 6-7), the plan is to organize the council list for welcoming calls by council members by zip code.

Buildings & Grounds – Judy reported that the leak was fixed in the air-conditioning, which means nothing bigger must be done immediately to the system. But in the next couple of years, the AC will need serious attention. The ceiling leak in the Parish Center music room has been repaired.

Mediation – Christine said there have been no requests for formal mediation.

### **ELECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Bob and Stephen updated the bylaws to clarify who is eligible to vote and to clean up other language.

On motion and second by Eloise and Judy respectively, the amendments were adopted. The election will be held the weekend of May 30-31 after each Mass. Bob reminded members that help is needed recruit candidates to run for the open seats.

### **COUNCIL FEEDBACK**

Stephen said he was approached during the March meet-and-greet about the awkward feelings some have over the inconsistency of standing or kneeling during the Eucharistic rite. The council asked that the Liturgy Committee revisit the issue and consider if the parish should ask the bishop if we can return to standing.

Judy summarized the interest by a woman in donating her services as a Mary Kay Cosmetics representative by doing a spa day on the premises. It was generally agreed that she was making the offer as a way of building her business. The council asked Judy to suggest that the woman donate instead to the school's Feria night and that she would gain marketing exposure that way.

### **FOLLOW UP TO OLD BUSINESS**

Panhandlers – Christine updated the council on the issue that had come before us in March about aggressive panhandlers on church property. Christine's brother, a member of Sacramento Police Department's problem-oriented patrol (POP) unit, has been assigned to the area of town that includes the church property. He counseled staff and parish leaders to tell the panhandlers that action will be taken and then to document any problems. Fr. Anthony reported that he told one of the panhandlers that the parish has spoken to police about them, and since that conversation, they have not been seen panhandling.

Centennial Celebration – In Shaaron’s absence, Fr. Anthony reported that plans are proceeding for a Ramadan dinner in September and that one of the imams is working with us on it. Cecelia said the choir is asking for a new date for its Centennial Concert to avoid a conflict with Father’s Day.

**CONTINUING BUSINESS**

Time-keeping – The issue of having a designated time-keeper during council meetings was held over for the next agenda.

Budget – A more thorough discussion of the draft 2009-10 was held over for the next agenda.

Centennial Book – Council requested that an update be presented at the next meeting about plans for sales of the Centennial Book.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

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

**NEXT MEETING**

May 12, 2009, 7 pm in the Library in the Parish Center.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| May 2/3   | Meet and greet before/after all Masses    |
| May 12    | Parish Council meeting                    |
| May 17    | Volunteer appreciation event              |
| May 30/31 | Parish Council elections                  |
|           | Farewell reception for Franklin and Chuck |