

## PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2011

**Attendance:** Ron C, Dennis, Dick, Colleen, Ellen D, Jerome, and Ellen R. Absent: Alejandra and Gary  
**Staff:** Father Tom, Ron M., Amy, Nehemias

**Opening Prayer:** Brian Smith

### **Review and approval of Parish Council minutes from January 3rd 2011 meeting**

Minutes approved after changing Ron C to Ron M on page 3.

### **Decision Items:**

#### **Item #1: Set date for 11:30 Parish Council Mass for March**

March mass for council is at 11:30 on March 13. Remember: clocks change that day.

Father asks for feedback on Council going to mass: positive comments have been heard by Ron C, Colleen, Brian, and Ellen R.

### **Discussion Items:**

Report from Representatives from Outreach, Deaf, Spanish, Community Building and Youth Commissions as to how they have aligned their goals and objectives to the Parish goals.

#### **Item #1: Father Tom reports from Community Building and provides us notes to follow.**

- Same goals as our minutes that have been published monthly.
- For Goal #1, the Welcoming Committee has a major project with a new packet and gifts. There will be a more formal welcome and follow up with new parishioners.
- There may be welcoming events in the future.
- This used to be a volunteer position (welcoming coordinator); now the Commission has taken this over and expanded the process.
- (Colleen) New cards and coupons will be in English and Spanish .
- There is a strong connection between liturgies and celebrations, so we feel we do Goal #2 well.
- (Ron M) There were quarterly invites previously.
- (Colleen) The Spanish Commission might be able to help us make an equivalent guidebook in Spanish.

#### **Item #2: Father Tom reports on Outreach Commission; notes are provided from him for reference.**

- A new committee, Health, is coming on board, so priorities need to be set.
- We are working with Community Building to plan together, but no formal steps have been taken yet.

#### **Item #3: Father Tom reports on the Deaf Commission's Targets for Goal #2**

- We have discussed when we are offering masses.
- They need to be well-advertised.
- We need to evaluate our mass and participation and see if we are at optimum for light, quality of interpretation, and made to feel welcomed.
- We want to encourage participation in church AND Deaf Commission activities.
- More evangelizing would be good. (Ellen asks if we count the number of deaf at masses: we do not. )
- Deaf masses are offered at Christ on the Mountain, Lady of Loretto, St. Mary's in Colorado Springs: the deaf ministry is more of a regional one than confined to the Diocese.
- There are fewer deaf lectors because of the distance and commitment needed. Some have stopped due to age.

#### **Item #4: Nehemias reports for the Spanish Commission**

- (Goal #1 and 2) Totally overflowing at the Saturday 7 pm mass. There is standing room only with approximately 380 in attendance. They are making a formal request to begin preparation/planning for a 2nd Spanish Mass (this will go to Liturgy Commission). What would be viable times?

- (Brian) Are there other churches with Spanish mass? Yes. There are approximately 14. When we started this in 1987 there were only 3.
- (Ron C) Are you doing anything to increase numbers? No. This growth is from word of mouth.
- (Ellen R) Do you have anything related to Goal #3 Stewardship? This is hard. Our population doesn't like to put names to paper. They are very guarded. However, they give good support monetarily and with catechism for their stewardship elements. People respond well to requests for help.
- (Ellen R) Is there anything else you want to add to your stewardship goal? Yes. We want to build up our Community Building and learn names, be more visible in our community, and become brothers in arms.
- (Tom) Is it still in the wind to have Luis Soto? Yes. He is too busy and in demand. Tom: He's our guy; tell him to set a goal and get back here.

**Item #5: Ron reports for Youth Commission and provides us an outline of their information and commented on some activities specifically.**

- Goal #1-Have a special confirmation for those just past graduation (the young side of young adult).
- Goal #2-Use Catholic Connections as the Eucharist curriculum. Invite peers and mentors to help.
- Goal #3-Stewardship is the least developed so far: words and actions.
- (Ellen R) Is there interest in lectoring? Should their process be different than adults? (Colleen) It seems like we have a lot of youth lectoring right now.  
(Nehemias) Spanish youth volunteer quite a bit to lector, but we lose them when they get older and move away.
- (Ron C) Do we have any volunteers for rep. on Parish Council? No.

**Additional Item for Discussion added by the Chairman during the meeting:**

**Ron C calls for open Council discussion of the goal posters.** There is general discussion from Ron M. and the Council members about how we got to where we are now in the process since the January meeting. It was explained that we had been having conversations since the Leadership meeting on Jan. 8th. Some of the items discussed by Council members were:

- Make a more permanent, professional-looking wall hanging.
- Place it in the Gathering Space.
- Ask permission to move the Philippine wall art and the donation plaques.
- Get approval for putting goals there and do, ask, or assign workers to get the area ready (movement of items in the space; drywall repair, painting, hanging of goals).
- Council members have already met with Wayne Dodge, the printer, who will donate his services for the making of the posters (thanks to Noel Busck asking him to do this).
- Jerome approached us about having the Knights pay for any other incidentals up to \$500. So far, the only cost would be the frames, which Colleen has purchased. Father reminded us that appeals to the Knights needs to go through the business office.
- Ron M. states that we have not met/discussed this topic the requisite amount of times according to Constitution.
- Father Tom says that we need to go through the required channels (Liturgy Commission, business office, maintenance crew) and facilitate the process gracefully since this isn't really an area that is part of Parish Council's designated duties.
- Ron M. states that the Philippine art formalizes our relationship with our sister parish.

**Ron C calls for further discussion on what the wall-hanging should look like.**

- Word size matters so that it can be read easily and from a fair distance.
- Red is the parish color, so it should be included in the background colors.
- Ellen R wonders if the frames are big enough. Colleen will check. She brought them with her.

- Colleen asks for dates when the various groups in charge (Liturgy Commission and Parish staff) can meet about the issue. Ron M. states that Liturgy will meet on Feb. 28th. Amy states that Parish staff will meet on February 15th.
- Ellen R states that she doesn't think this is enough time to have the sample ready to show. She will have Scott work on it, but so far we don't have any good pictures to use.
- Ron M has sent some digital pictures to Ellen and is looking for more, especially some interior shots.
- Colleen recommends that Scott try black and white 1/2 tone with red lettering over.
- Brian suggests that a design committee should be declared and that whatever they come up with the rest of the Council agree with whatever the team comes up with. This idea was agreed upon and consensus was reached.
- Brian states that the group is Brian, Colleen, Ron C, and Ellen. (postscript: Ellen informs the rest of the team the next week that she is not really interested in being on the design team. It was her task to find prices. Scott is also unable to find appropriate pictures to use, and he and Ellen R pass this task to Colleen, who seems to have a design in mind. At this time, we have not heard back from Colleen.

**Reported Items:**

Item #1: Ministry Fair will be held April 30th from 3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sunday May 1st from 8:00 a.m.- 2:00.

Item #2: Brian shares documents from St. Dominick's that he found on a recent visit there. They make welcoming bookmarks for new visitors. They also do a survey of their parish needs similar to ours.

**The meeting is adjourned after closing prayer by Colleen.**

**Opening prayer in March will be Richard; the closing prayer will be Ron C.**