

Minutes of the Parish Council of September 9, 2014

Attendance: Fr. Wojciech Pelczarski, Kathy Perlitz, Sharon Scorso, Ron Massimino, Bonnie Benevides, Tom Manning, Janusz Herasimowicz, Sharon Snuffer, Joel Cohan, Jonathan Van Dine, and Patti Cinea.

Guests from Bingo: Donna Wabble, Diana Keenan, Bert Flynn, Anne Pullo, Keith Depathy, Barbara Oshman, Donna Oholf, Bill and Monita Hebert, and Betty Wright.

Meeting opened with prayer at 7:06 p.m. The following was discussed:

1. Minutes of July were reviewed. Amended was that the thermostat will be set at 60 degrees Fahrenheit during the winter months to conserve oil.
2. **Bingo:** The Council acknowledged the Bingo workers for their extraordinary efforts in commitment in time and work these past 2+ years in creating an environment of hospitality and fundraising for the parish. At the last night of Bingo, a petition circulated supporting the restart of Bingo. The petition had 60 signatures, mostly adults, but some children. The biggest defrays of Bingo was the low attendance during the winter months, the expense of oil with furnace output of 6 gallons/hour X 7 hours @ a cost of \$3+ dollars/gallon=42 gallons/\$3+ per night; plus worker fatigue. The ideal of having 3-4 bingo teams to rotate weekly was not achieved. Possible ideas posed for a restart include: secure a team of committed workers, avoid playing during winter months and host activity in church lower level to decrease fuel costs, change the design of games to shorten time spent playing, and raise weekly jackpot by \$100/week to attract more players, raise cost of admission to \$2. State regulations allow the possibility of running Bingo with interruptions in schedule; however, the Department of Public Health will not support the preparation of food in the church kitchen as there is no fire suppression hood nor commercial dishwasher. Suggested was for those persons advocating a Bingo restart is to first develop a schedule and teams of committed persons. Monita offered to devise a list of needs as a resource.
3. **Boy Scouting:** The Boy Scout leadership voiced inability to pay a monthly electrical fee for facility usage for scout meetings. There are Diocesan requirements that stipulate that the leaders need to submit paperwork and be cleared by the Office of Safe Environments, sign a facility usage contract with yearly renewal, and submit a certificate of insurance annually. Added is that the leaders will need to sign a Terms of Agreement contract that addresses maintenance, communication and accessibility.
4. **Finance:** Joel presented a caption on parish finances. Current offertory is down by 3.3 % compared to June. Electrical expenses were down by 25%, but fuel cost was 19% higher from the previous year. All capital projects are on hold, except for the filling of the parking lot cracks in the most critical areas. Oil was purchase recently at \$3.19/gallon with tanks filled up. Mike Harney is tentatively scheduled to present a parish operating budget at our next meeting.
5. **Youth Faith Formation:** Classes for grades 1-8 begin September 28th. Currently, there are 41 registrants. The Confirmation Class will be attending the Youth Explosion on this same date, which fulfills a retreat requirement. Transportation to this event is either having adult drivers certified in Safe Environments or paying the expense of a minibus which is \$100 higher this year. Suggested is to share cost of bus transport with another deanery parish.
6. **Property Management:** The Christmas Fair Group has offered to pay the \$3000 cost to fill the critical cracks in the parking lots. Results of water testing reveal a low level of radon. The neutralization tank is not needed making it an unnecessary maintenance expense. An under mount charcoal filter could be fitted under the Rectory kitchen sink. This would mediate undesirable taste and odor. The new parish sign developed as an Eagle Scout Project is awaiting a cover board and finials. Tom will contact parishioner John Anderson, who designed the other 2 signs, about refurbishing. More memorial brick orders were obtained as a part of the 2nd Eagle Scout Patio Project.

The meeting concluded at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Cinea