

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of February 10, 2015

Attendance: Fr. Wojciech Pelczarski, Sharon Scorso, Ron Massimino, Dorli and Lou Cloutier, Sharon Snuffer, Bonnie Benevides, Janusz Herasimowicz, and Patti Cinea.

The meeting opened with prayer at 7:10 p.m. The following was discussed:

1. Minutes of December were reviewed and accepted.
2. **Finance:** At the end of April there will be a report on the amount of money collected from the Fuel Fund collection and how much money was spent on fuel this winter. Fuel Fund will end by April. There will be an offertory collection for the Salvatorian Fathers in April or May. This is Fr. Wojciech's religious order.
3. **Youth Faith Formation:** There was a movie night last Friday. On February 22nd, there will be a meeting with parents of the Confirmation class to discuss fundraising. The money collected can support the bus trip to the annual Youth Explosion in Uncasville. Recommended is to involve the teens in choosing which fundraising activities they prefer and build character by allowing them to manage them under adult supervision. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on May 30th this year. Bishop Cote will be the celebrant. Sacred Heart Parish has requested their Confirmation candidates conjoin with ours this year.
4. **Adult Faith Formation:** 14 parishioners are participating in the book reading of *A Father Who Keeps His Promises*. There will be a book review session on March 1st. On March 15th and 29th, the latest series by Fr. Barron, *Priest, Prophet and King* will be shown. Two viewings, one in the morning, and then, repeated in the evening. An ACTs Retreat will be held in March at Immaculata
5. **Property Management:** This winter has proved challenging for snow removal. There is every attempt to keep the property safe from injuries related to falls. There was a recent incident with back up of the Parish Center boiler causing smoke to emit into the furnace room and lower level hallway. The smoke detector triggered. The Bolton Fire Department/Fire Marshall responded. M & M Oil Co. was contacted. Identified was the accumulation of solids in the exhaust pipe from condensation. Recommended is to maintain a consistent temperature in the Parish Center. This will prevent both pipes from freezing and the buildup of soot. The thermostat can be raised during facility usage, then lowered back to the set degrees. More volunteers are needed to be first responders should the security alarm trigger in the Parish Center. Volunteers are placed on a call list. They are contacted by Sonitrol in order of availability. The responder would wait in his car until State Police arrive, and provide an access key should police need to enter the building. The Church northwest portico roof requires diversion channels to prevent water overflow onto the ground below with subsequent erosion. Estimated cost \$1300. There has been flooding of the Rectory basement during heavy rains for decades. Remediation includes installation of a sump pump and a drainage system that would divert ground water away from the foundation. After property usage, please assure that affected areas are cleaned properly and restored.
6. Christmas Poor and Need offertory will be evenly divided and sent to MACC and WAIM.
7. **No Kids Hungry Backpack Program:** Janusz presented an information packet from this Bolton PTA directed program. The plan is to discreetly provide children at risk of not having sufficient food to eat over the weekend a backpack containing nutritious food items. Storage areas for collected food have been identified. Volunteers will be sought to pack up the backpacks on Friday with food. The child will then bring this pack home and return it empty on Monday. The process will be repeated the following Friday. What kind of help can the parish provide? Discussed was to possibly set a basket in each vestibule for food collection for this cause. An announcement could be placed into the bulletin to inform parishioners of this program and allow those interested to contribute food. Recommended is to address this with the Bolton Ecumenical Council.

Meeting concluded at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Cinea