

Church of the Holy Spirit
Parish Council Minutes
April 28, 2009

Present: Karen Adams-Secretary, Vinny Amuso, Irene Calendo, Grace Costich Schlageter, Josie DeBruyn, Father Helfrich, Jim Isaac, Deacon Brian Mahoney, John Marchand, Brian Sheba

Absent: Adam Calcagno-Vice President, Chris Gaudieri, Chuck Mertz-President, Tom Salamida

Guests: Lynn Calcagno, Tony Ferrera, Shari Magagnoli (Shari and Alice Winter alternate as Staff Representatives)

Called to Order: 7:25 PM

Opening Prayer offered by: Fr. Helfrich

Review of Action Register/Old Business:

Father Helfrich's Icon Presentation: Father Helfrich asked for input as to what kind of Icon Presentation we would be interested in him giving. The Presentation Father gave at St. Stanislaus was on Our Lady. Father said he could give one on the Meaning of Icons, Our Lady or Our Lord. It was suggested that we have an Icon Education Series in the Fall. The Presentations would be open to all of our WPCC Parishes. Will discuss further next meeting.

WPCC Sacred Heart Meeting: Father Helfrich was unable to attend the March WPCC Sacred Heart relationship meeting. Kim Haynes will represent our Parish at the next meeting.

Father McMahon's Anniversary Event: The flyer is done and will be included in the May 3rd Bulletin. Father mentioned that special music, mostly Latin pieces for the Anniversary Mass. John Marchand noted the need for a Committee to be established for the event and will write up an article for the Bulletin. Karen suggested Sign-up Sheets for the Gathering area, and Shari offered to prepare those.

Sister Parish Update: Vinny asked Council Members to write a letter to our Sister Parish. The letters will be sent along with various pictures of our Church, Staff, and parishioners. Additionally, the Certificate, signed by both Pastors, has been received back and it was suggested that it will be hung in the New Entrance. Vinny will obtain a frame for it.

Gazebo Update: Shari said seating for the Gazebo was installed and completed last week. Also, David will stain the Gazebo as soon as weather permits. (Completed at time of publication)

Three Parish Council Members were available to serve at the April 3rd Soup Supper.

Father expressed disappointment in parishioner response for the Easter Church decorating on Holy Saturday.

Shari stated that Alice is working on the Reserved Parking Signs for Assisting Priests and Gabe; and Alice will have the Income & Balance Statements soon for inclusion in the Bulletin.

Shari also informed us that the Pictorial Directories have finally arrived and there will be an article in the Bulletin that they may be picked up at the Parish Office.

Karen prepared and distributed last month's Parish Council Minutes and Communiqué.

Father Fred's Report:

Father Helfrich suggested adding a "Good Samaritan" role to the Greeter Program, whereby a Greeter will help a parishioner in need to and from their car or bus before and after Mass. Grace asked about the legal liability of this and Deacon Brian stated any person helping is covered under the Good Samaritan rule.

Father mentioned that he has received many positive comments on the New Entrance with electric door openers, and many people are using the New Entrance rather than the Main (old) Entrance.

Father asked for input as to whether to continue to have a table with Hosts and Ciborium by *both* entrances. Grace noted that people have to get used to the new/second location. Father said to continue it for now, and follow up next meeting.

Father spoke on his recent Convocation trip and gave a beautiful description of a priestly vocation. Father also noted that there will only be one ordination this June, and none until the year 2012. Again, emphasizing and encouraging attendance at our Friday evening Holy Hour for Vocations and Peace.

Due to increased attendance, space constraints, and our Parish Center not being available on date requested, Father McAlear's Retreat will not be held at Holy Spirit this year.

Suggestions/Comments/Open Forum:

The first writer respectfully communicated dissatisfaction at Council spending time discussing petty disputes such as artificial and quantity of flowers and statues in Church. She feels more time could be spent on bringing in Catholic speakers or creating more

adult educational classes, etc.. She stated that the goal is to maintain our Magisterial Catholic belief system, here at Holy Spirit, while at the same time making it more appealing to outsiders to increase our parishioner census, and to educate old and young alike. Karen suggested not addressing disrespectful submissions, but it was noted that all are to be addressed.

The next submission noted that the website listed the Saturday morning Mass start-time of 8:30 AM instead of 8:00 AM. Shari will email Mike to correct start-time. The writer also suggested having a Cross over the New Entrance and having a raffle to cover costs. Father Helfrich shared that a stained glass window of the Holy Spirit Logo has been planned for the new entrance. Tony Ferrara was on hand to explain that a color or etched glass, plastic-removable logo is in negotiations, and is very cost-effective. Karen suggested having a Memorial Wall plaque to help remember loved ones and generate funds, but Deacon Brian did not agree, stating too costly for parishioners. Maria Pellegrino will be providing updates to Father and/or Tony on this project, with the completion target date of our Patron Feast Day, Pentecost Sunday. (At time of publication the Vinyl Logo had arrived too late for installation for Feast Day)

The last suggestion was regarding the weekly Coffee/Donut Hour following the 10:30 AM Mass to be changed to alternate Mass times. It was noted that there are no volunteers or funds available to hold any additional after Mass Socials. Also, that as a counter, she has noticed that not enough donations have been received to cover costs of the Social and also expressed that if not enough donations are received, that it should be cancelled. It was decided that comparison pricing will be done, accounting procedures will be changed, and it will continue at the 10:30 AM time slot. It was the Pastor's and Council's belief that the benefit outweighs the shortage of funds; however, increased donations are welcomed and appreciated.

The next meeting will be June 16th.

Closing prayer offered by: Father Helfrich

Adjourned: 8:50 PM

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Communiqué

The last Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 28th.

Many favorable comments on the beautiful New Handicap Entrance have been received and welcomed by Father Helfrich.

Father McAlear's Fall Retreat will not be held here at Holy Spirit this Fall due to increased attendance and space constraints, and our Parish Hall was not available on the date requested.

By request, Father Helfrich is considering giving an educational series on Icons in the Fall which will be open to all four PWCC Parishes.

Father Helfrich discussed adding a Good Samaritan role to the Greeter Program, whereby a Greeter would help a parishioner to and from their car or bus before and after Mass.

The long awaited Pictorial Directories may be picked up at the Parish Office weekdays from 8-4PM.

Parish Council Minutes, as well as Comment and Suggestion Forms are available in the Gathering area. Also, all are welcome to attend any Parish Council Meeting. Thank you.