

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH COUNCIL  
Notes of Meeting of October 11, 2016

The meeting was held at the Parish Center, and began at 6:30 p.m. Attending were:

Present? Y N	Name, Position	Elected/ Apptd.	Rep/ Liaison
X	Fr. Grant Gerlach, Pastor		
X	Ed Fischer, Chair	Elected	Liturgy, CLM
X	Mary Krogman Vice Chair	Elected	Bldg/Mtc
X	John Dvorak	Elected	Rel. Ed.
X	Donna Hafner	Elected	Arts + Env., WSJ
X Left early	Joe Uhrich	Apptd.	KCs
X	Brenda Oster	Apptd.	Finance
X	Amy Miklos	Apptd.	Young Adults/Youth
X	Jim Brickey, Bldg/Mtc Chair		

The notes from the last meeting were reviewed. One correction to those notes was made (Uhrich not present at last meeting).

**Building/Maintenance** – Jim Brickey

Drainage into basement furnace room – Jim said a contractor would start work tomorrow, October 12, on repairs to the driveway entrance north of the garage where Father parks his car. An 8” culvert will be installed. Cost will be \$600. Contractor will move the excavated material to the low area north of the west entrance to the Church. He will also bring in clay to stock against the north and west walls there, and will excavate a spot and fill with cobble rock to absorb runoff. It is hoped this work will reduce or eliminate water percolation and seepage into the basement furnace room area, including behind the electric panels on the west wall, which evidently has been a chronic problem and is causing a potentially dangerous situation. This work will cost \$1100.

Jim intends to then work with Jamie Kelly to develop a drainage through the walk and parking area outside the west entrance. Kelly will be asked to develop a covered drainage channel leading south to the grassy area on the southwest corner of the church property. This should drain rain and melting snow both in the area to the north of the west entrance, and in the outside walk area.

Parking lot insurance liability – Jim talked to the insurance company about liability for unauthorized public use of the west parking lot, including skateboarding. They suggested we develop and post at least two signs advising the public the lot is for church parking only, and warning that unauthorized use is prohibited. **Council members should email Jim with suggested wording.**

*Snow removal contract for this winter – Steve Davis? Dennis Rosane? -- Jim will contact Steve Davis to determine his interest to help us this winter.*

## OLD BUSINESS

### Gathering Area

Mary Krogman has talked to a number of people, and has assembled a steering group. She suspects the core membership will be about five, with several others assisting at some points. Dawn Holland and Mike Lewis will help to orient the group to prior efforts and their current tasks, which are to assemble a list of possible concepts for a gathering area, and narrow it down to perhaps three viable ideas. The needs the Parish Council has identified in the past should be addressed in these concepts, including upgrading power to the building to allow for installation of air conditioning units, providing for an accessible gathering area, and upgrading the basement bathrooms. The group should also discuss some possible funding ideas.

Father Gerlach said that the Diocese may have some guidelines for new constructed facilities that should be included in the concepts. He will call the Diocesan building commission (or equivalent) to make initial contact.

### Priority Plan Action Items

The Bishop has developed and sent to parishes an action plan to address Pastoral Priority 1, Reconciliation, including the two tasks. Father Gerlach passed out copies of the four-page action plan to Council members, and will follow up with an electronic copy. He asked that members read the document, and read Chapter IX in the book, *Through Him, With Him and In Him*, authored by Bishop Gruss, which was sent to all parishioners this summer.

The action plan calls for at least one meeting of prayer and reflection on reconciliation in the dimensions of the individual, family and parish. The suggestion was made that youth could be reached by a presentation on a Wednesday evening at Faith Formation. No decisions were made on that or other Parish meetings.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Council Member Terms

The 3-year terms of Ed Fischer and Mary Krogman will expire Fall 2016. The 2-year terms of John Dvorak and Donna Hafner expired Fall 2015. No nominations were received from parishioners for those positions in November 2015, and since both were willing to continue serving, Fr. Kerry appointed both to three-year terms. He recommended at that time that we have an official ballot in the future.

Both Mary and Ed stated they would be willing to be considered in any new election to fill their positions. In discussion there was general agreement among the group to solicit nominations and hold another election over the next few weeks. Specifically, the group agreed that over two weekends it should be explained at Masses that two Council seats are opening up, and that paper nomination forms should be provided and picked up at collections. Nominees would be called by one or more Council members to determine if they would be willing to be considered. On the third weekend, names and brief statements about each nominee would be printed in the bulletin.

On the fourth weekend ballot forms would be provided at both Masses and the election would be held.

It was pointed out that nominees should be advised that they must be present at Council meetings, which take place all seasons of the year. Also, the positions of Council Chairperson and Vice-Chair are determined by a vote of Council members, so those elected in this round would not necessarily serve in the positions of the current incumbents.

Ed will call Joan to ask how Hot Springs did their recent nomination and election process, and will draft a nomination form and email to Council members for review and comment.

#### REPORTS

Before he left the meeting, Joe Uhrich said that \$947 had been raised in this past weekend's pancake breakfast for the Thomsen family. The Knights of Columbus will donate \$1000 to the Thomsens to use to defray expenses of Lloyd's ongoing medical treatment.

Fr. Gerlach stated he would like to have committee reports provided before each meeting by email to members for their review, rather than taking time during the meeting for these. Jim Brickey and Amy Miklos stated they would like to have a chance during the meeting to ask questions and comment on any reports. Rather than one person compiling reports, it was agreed Ed would send out notes of the most recent meeting two weeks prior to the next one, and request Council members to "reply to all" with any reports from their liaison committees. Members could review these email replies, and then initiate any discussion at the next meeting.

#### NEXT MEETING

Next Parish Council meeting will be held Tuesday, November 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Parish Center.