

St. John the Baptist Parish Council

Notes of meeting of June 23, 2014

The meeting was held in the Parish Center. Attending were Father Kerry Prendiville, Joe Uhrich (KC and Building/Maintenance Committee Representative), John Dvorak (Religious Education Committee Rep.), Donna Hafner (Arts and Environment and Women of St. John Rep.) Mary Krogman (Vice Council Chair), Brenda Oster (Finance Committee Rep.), Ed Fischer (Council Chair) and Finny (Pat) Sechser (meeting scribe). The meeting began at 1810 with a prayer led by Father Kerry.

Council Chair Ed presented an agenda including electric bills, facility update, budget, heating and cooling for the parish center and the church, capital plan, kneelers, American Legion request and scheduling.

OLD BUSINESS: Utilities: Mary shared the electric bills for the rectory and the church showing an increase in kilowatt hours used with the addition of the Meals on Wheels (MOW) program. The MOW pays the church \$200 per month (about the amount of the power increase), part of our garbage bill and part of the snow removal bill. Father Kerry reminded us that doing corporal works of mercy is part of the church's mission and we should remember to share with the public that we support the elderly and community members in need by hosting the MOW. Mary made a motion seconded by Brenda to continue MOW as is and review their contract in January 2015. Motion approved. She recommended they use commercial appliances for best economy as opposed to donated personal appliances.

Jim Brickey reported that due to the weather, the trees and stumps will not be removed until August or September. He is getting a bid from D & R of Rapid City for furnace repair or replacement with preliminary figures of repairing six at \$500 each or replacing for 27 – 30 thousand dollars total. Freeman electric assessed all the electric heat. Our air conditioner is useable and replacement cost for one unit is \$6500.

The shingling has been completed on the Parish Center, but the gutters are needed. The concrete work on the steps is done with caulking/ rubber expanders still needed.

Father Kerry will check with our consultants for recommendations about heating and cooling. Will consider the estimates and feasibility, and may get an estimate from another firm in Rapid City. Conversations about improper hook ups, number of furnaces needed and efficiency of all devices was held. The rust areas on the church name may be removed with sanding, painting and sealing. Bill Wakeland will tackle this project. Landscaping for the Parish Center is being coordinated by Cindy Weidenbach.

John reported on the installed TV in the church basement that merely needs to be turned on and is ready to use for Mass overflow. The audio is activated as soon as the PA system is turned on by the choir. Thank you John!

Five year Capital Plan: Council Chair Ed suggested we create a list of higher priced needs of the parish which will be shared with the budget committee for better planning for our parish. Items suggested:

1. Asphalt or chip seal the parking lot
2. Renovate the parish hall flooring, aesthetics and the long hall.
3. Re – do the basement bathrooms for handicap accessibility and aesthetics.
4. Heating and cooling for the Parish Center and the Church.
5. Chairs for the meeting rooms
6. Kneelers with cushion
7. Grill
8. Landscaping around the Parish Center
9. Small kitchen in the parish center basement

10. Dedicated gathering area at the church with a new entrance.
11. Reconciliation room space with rowdy childrens room

Members are asked to brain storm and bring more ideas to the next meeting.

Budget: Brenda shared that by the end of June the Parish Center debt will be gone. The bookkeepers salary is now \$13/hour. The custodians salary was raised to \$750/month. The Building and Maintenance budget was increased to 25 – 30 thousand. Money not used goes into the contingency fund. Budgets for the committees was unchanged. Pianists are paid \$25 per Mass and \$50 per funeral. Motion by Brenda with a second by Joe to approve the budget as presented. The Parish Council votes to approve the budget and then is signed by Ed, Father Kerry and Brenda. Any project costing over \$10,000 that is not in the budget must have diocesan approval prior to doing.

NEW BUSINESS:

A request from Don Hone representing the American Legion was presented to Father Kerry to rent space for meeting and a small amount of storage due to their rent being raised at the Senior Center. Recommendation was for the group to look elsewhere.

The complaint about scheduling is in the past. Infrequent, rare changes are made to Mass times and parishioners need to adapt.

The summer crowding will be lessened by the installation of a big screen TV on the west wall of the Church basement. The Parish Council agreed that the west greeter should act as host, pass a basket for collection, distribute hymnals prior to Mass, direct people to communion and return the chairs to the tables at the end of Mass. Bulletins are handed out after Mass at each entrance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Knights of Columbus (KC's) by Joe have no summer meetings after May. Pancake breakfasts will resume in September. Please be respectful of supplies of the Knights.

Women of St. John's (WSJ) and A and E by Donna- WSJ latest bake sale raised \$343.10. A potluck for Father's 30th anniversary of being a priest was held and enjoyed. Father Jonathan's welcome was completed. The WSJ donated \$200 to the summer sack lunch program.

No action/report from A and E.

Religious Education by John the television for summer overflow was borrowed from the Religious Ed. Program.

Liturgy No new news.

Motion by Joe with a second by Mary for adjournment.

Next meeting 8/18/14 @ 1800 in the Parish Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Finny (Pat) Sechser, scribe