

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 02/28/12

**Members Present:** Phyllis Hofer, Father Troy, Linda Gent, Rich Pierson, Becky Adam, Paul Horak, Dan Berdo, Heidi Vittetoe, Janis Vittetoe, Beth McBride, and Sonia Leyva

The meeting was called to order by President Phyllis Hofer at 7:10 pm. Father Troy led the council in prayer.

**Church Life:** Becky reported, soup supper went very well, had a good variety of soups. Main current objective is planning for Easter Vigil. Discussion took place over where Sunday coffee should take place and attendance.

**Faith Formation:** Janis reported, have 5 catechumens (not been baptized yet) and 7 candidates participating in RCIA. Fr. Troy reported that we have the 2nd largest number of adult baptisms in the diocese. Discussed Faith Formation should take an active role in searching for the next director of faith formation. Janis and others have been working on a job description, full time position combining director of faith formation (Sunday classes) and religious education for school. New director of faith formation needs to be a good delegator and one who can empower people. Discussed faith formation and lack of students' fundamental knowledge of their religion...working on empowering parents to educate their children and take religious education beyond only Sunday classes.

**Family Life:** Beth McBride was introduced as the new Family Life representative on the Council. She is excited to help in any way she can.

**Liturgy and worship:** Paul Horak reported will be meeting in March. Finalizing music. In desperate need of liturgical ministers. Lectors need to be at mass 15 minutes prior to starting in order for everything to run smoothly.

**Maintenance:** Dan reported, discussed air conditioning for school and had a presentation on different ideas. Discussed mowing for upcoming year. Working on figuring out acoustics in the gym. Dan will be giving up position on parish council due to personal child care issues, but will continue his role in the maintenance commission. In process of looking for Council replacement person.

**Social Action:** Phyllis Hofer reported, working on planning a joint project with Hispanic parishioners for Palm Sunday (April 1st) to make crosses out of palms after the 8am mass. Need 12-15 volunteers to help with year-round Soup Kitchen at the United Presbyterian church. St. James is on "stand by" because they have six other churches already participating.

**Stewardship:** Rich Pierson reported they met in early February. Discussed getting newsletter going again. Decided will be sending two people to stewardship conference in August 2012 in Wichita to learn about stewardship and the whole spirituality..."a way of living".

**School Board:** Fr. Troy reported, parent meeting took place and there was a decision made in favor of combining 5th and 6th grades.

**Finance Council:** Heidi Vittetoe reported, each commission needs to submit budget proposals/requests by March 20th. Budget planning will take place March 27th! Please submit to Mary Ward, business manager. If no change from last year please submit a paper stating "same as last year/no change".

**Fr. Troy report:** Finance council needs evening to do budget, therefore, no parish council meeting until April! How to evangelize, Pope Benedict named this year "year of faith". Take time to pray for the person that you are/will be shepherding. Take advantage of many retreats/programs that are coming up! Fr. Troy encourages each of us to take an hour of the week to listen and spend in prayer! Sound system work will begin in two weeks and be completed by holy week! Lighting still in bidding process. Cost is approximately \$40,000 for the sound system.

\*\*No corrections or additions to the minutes--January minutes stand approved as written.

**Old Business:** Discussion regarding sound system in Tobin Hall. It is still on the "to do list", however, there are many other things to also focus on. Final review of Pastoral/Strategic Plan took place and consensus of council was to move forward with plan.

**New business:** Jesse Romero will be coming May 11-12. He is a very passionate speaker, and will do talks in both Spanish and English. Fr. Troy needs volunteers to put together committee for hospitality of Jesse and wife during time here. Publicity (e.g. flyers) for speaker was discussed, want to open talks to Washington and surrounding areas. Beth Mc Bride and Becky Adam volunteered to be committee heads for organizing Jesse Romero's publicity and stay/meal while in town.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by Phyllis Hofer. Prayer led by Fr. Troy.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 24th. **No meeting in March!**

Recorded by: Sonia Leyva, Secretary  
Pending Approval at April 24th meeting.

***CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS:***

*Father Troy Richmond (Priest)*  
*Dan Berdo (Maintenance)*  
*Heidi Vittetoe (Lay Director)*  
*Genoveva Diaz (Faith Formation)*  
*Mike Driscoll (School Board)*  
*Paul Horak (Liturgy/Worship/Prayer)*  
*Edgar Gutierrez/Thomas Johnson (Youth, At Large)*

*Phyllis Hofer (Social Action)*  
*Carl Berst (Trustee)*  
*Becky Adam (Church Life)*  
*Rich Pierson (Stewardship)*  
*Sonia Leyva (At Large)*  
*Jesse Johnston (At Large)*  
*Beth McBride (Family Life)*