

Immaculate Conception Parish Council Minutes
Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Heritage Room

Members Present: Fr. Dennis Colter, Kevin Davis, Becky Bertch, Tim Horrigan, Ken Thoma, Gary Mangrich, Rhonda Bloes, Teresa Fischels, special guest representing the Finance Committee- Scott Becker, and Janet Reiter, recording secretary.

Kevin called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM

Fr. Colter led us in prayer.

A correction to the agenda was made; Sacramental Offering for Weddings was added back on to Unfinished Business.

All in favor of correction, agenda approved as corrected.

Minutes approved as recorded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board of Education: Tim Horrigan reported that the SIAC advisement committee handed over recommendations to the school. One primary item was a way to "beef up" communication between school needs and knowledgeable people to fill those needs. Kindergarten enrollment is up from 24 students to 29 which will necessitate a new teacher. One student will enroll at Don Bosco from St. John's, Independence. Seven of the ten 8th grade students at St. Athanasius will attend Don Bosco. The Visioning Committee is meeting monthly to lay our ideas, no time line yet; the committee is gathering information as to what are each board's needs, wants, ect. A discussion was held on what the Board of Education could do to promote adult education in the parish. Tim will look into ways to encourage parishioners to take advantage of adult learning opportunities.

Spiritual Growth & Liturgy: Teresa reported that on March 22 the committee will decorate for Easter. Flowers have been ordered and will arrive on Friday, with a few coming early for Holy Thursday.

Community Life and Social Concerns: Rhonda reported that we served the last Soup Supper for the season and had a nice turn out. She reported contributions of a little over \$500 will be donated to the Rice Bowl Campaign. Fr. Colter asked if the donation could be brought up during offertory on Holy Thursday Mass.

Rosary Society: Paula Vandenbos could not be present but sent word with Janet that everything is in order for the Annual Pie Auction which will be April 5.

Buildings and Grounds: Gary reported that the work is underway in the Rectory. The very old carpet in Fr. Colter office has been removed and beautiful hardwood floors were discovered underneath which are being refinished by Larry Elson. Gary asked for help on Saturday to begin work in the upstairs sitting room walls that are in bad shape. Following the repair work both rooms will be painted.

Finance and Administration:

PARISH COUNCIL STATUS OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Checking Acct. Balance 2-29-08	\$ 2,490.39
I.C. Improvement Fund	\$185,099.86
Income for February	\$ 79,184.65 (Budget Adults = \$39,798.80)
Expenses for February	\$ 80,333.54

Note:

1. The parish was only able to meet 67% of it's assigned assessment to the schools for the month of Feb.
2. \$35,000 of the income/expense was an in/out. Funds the Rosary Society sent to the D & L in Dubuque to be set up in a separate savings account that will draw interest. The last we were informed of interest dividend earnings was December 2007 and the rate was

5.6% (Ken Thoma questioned if this rate was correct. Janet will check and report next month).

Scott Becker representing the Finance Committee reported on the Bosco System budget for 2008-2009 academic year which was presented to the IC & St. Joseph's Finance Committees on March 11, 2008. In the past the school has given the parish their budget with the assessment they would need to meet that budget. Scott reported that the correct procedure would be for the Finance Committee to give the school the assessment amount that the parish could afford and have the school work around that. The assessment proposed to Immaculate Conception Parish is \$422, 694.00 for IC-St. Joe's and \$173,536.00 for Don Bosco. Tuition for the year will be \$1,675.00 (plus 150.00 from 07-08) for IC-St. Joe's and \$2,450.00 (Plus 150.00 from 07-08) for Don Bosco. Discussion was held on the importance of third party sources of income such as grants. Ken Thoma said that the STO deadline of March 15 is too early in the year. Many people can not get their taxes done that soon and therefore can not apply for the assistance. Fr. Colter said he will speak with Jeff Henderson about the deadline. Motion was made by Ken Thoma to accept the proposed IC assessments. Becky Bertch seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. The council thanked Scott Becker for his attendance.

Parishioner Donald Becker who past away July 19, 2007, requested a memorial be made of his 401K. We can expect a check for the full \$10,000 plus interest within 7 to 10 business days. We will then send that amount to D & L to be deposited in an account named the Donald Becker Memorial Account. A thank you will be placed in the bulletin.

Deanery Council: Next Deanery meeting will be April 17, 2008.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discussion was held on printing the parish council minutes in the bulletin. Since the minutes should not be printed until approved Fr. Colter suggested a summary of subjects discussed in the bulletin would be timelier.

B. Kevin will inquire what other parishes charge for out of parish weddings at the Deanery meeting on April 17th. IC is seeing an increasing amount of out of parish weddings which take dates that are often then not available to parishioners.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Gary reported that there are many old parish directories stored in the rectory. These will be set out in church for parishioners to take if they want.

B. Janet reported that the paper recycling trailer will be moved from St. Mary's Hall parking lot next week.

PASTOR'S COMMENTS

Fr. Colter talked about the urgent need for a new parish building which includes a cafeteria for the schools. A committee with many knowledgeable people has been formed.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 9, at 7:00 PM.

ADJORN

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM

Respectfully submitted

Janet Reiter
Parish Secretary