

MINUTES

St. Bridget Parish Pastoral Council Meeting—February 16, 2011

The St. Bridget Parish Council meeting was called to order by John Smith, Chairman, on Wednesday, February 16, 2011. Msgr. Carr opened the meeting with a prayer.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the January meeting be approved.

Present: Msgr. Carr, John Smith, David Anderson, Charlene Bechely, Joe Jowaisas, Michael Kozak, Elizabeth Martin, James Melvin, Paul Sinclair, Mark Sweeney, Maire Swider, Donna Weber.

Absent: Tim Corbett, Augie Keller, Fr. Stanfill, Kay White.

Wayne Slough, member of the Stewardship Committee gave an update report. Stewardship letter from Msgr. Carr will be coming out soon, followed by 2 weekends of Msgr. speaking. Stewardship packet will be mailed to parishioners. We will be following the lead of the Diocese Appeal and will also have 4 weekends of pew appeals. After that, we will have a phonathon to the parishioners who have not responded. Feedback will be given to parishioners in May.

Wayne asked the parish council to put forms in pews and collect them at all Masses during the weekends of pew appeal. Also asked for help on the phonathon. He then gave out Pledge Packets to all Parish Council members. Stewardship committee wants parish council to respond generously so that they can use this as a tool to urge rest of the parish to follow suit.

Some questions asked:

- Q.** What is the goal (dollar-wise) of this pledge campaign? Does the parish have a written budget for the coming year that we are trying to reach?
 - A.** There is no dollar goal. There is no budget-figure the pledge campaign is trying to reach. There was a shortfall last year, and we don't want that again. Parish needs to build up capital reserves.
- Q.** Is the giving of time and talent also going to be stressed in the campaign?
 - A.** Service is important.
- Q.** When does our offertory pledge year begin and end?
 - A.** Begins right away.
- Q.** Can we go online and check our balance throughout the year?
 - A.** Do not know.
- Q.** Could parish cut back on the number of second collections?
 - A.** This will be addressed once we see results of stewardship campaign.
- Q.** Will we still have the Bishop's Appeal annually?
 - A.** Yes.
- Q.** Does school tuition count for giving to parish?
 - A.** No. A letter was sent out to the school families explaining what it means (dollar-wise) to be a school family and qualify for reduced tuition.
- Q.** Which figure is to be put in the pledge amount at top of card: weekly, annual, monthly?
 - A.** Answer unclear. Any would be ok?

Building Committee Report: John Smith reported the following:

- Rectory humidifier systems: Bids in the \$16,000 range.
- Curb at the bushes and correct dip at bottom of handicap ramp: \$1900.
- Bids to repair kneelers: \$15,000 to \$20,000. This is without the labor to take off the old covers and put on new ones. We will provide labor
- Renew wood on pews: \$30,000.
- Renew wood on the piano in church: \$1500.
- Parquet floors in commons: \$5266. New carpet (commons): \$1250
- Pat Ross also has list of about 10 buildings and grounds projects which he needs help on, i.e., paint offices, paint wrought iron fence.

Mike Kozak said that he could put the request out to the Men's Ministry and the K of C.

Census Committee Report: Paul Sinclair gave this update on the census.

- **1418 Forms received.** Of those 1126 gave a total of \$1,148,543 in 2010.
- **1282 No response.** Of those "no response" 285 gave a total of \$224,604 in 2010. 921 gave \$0 in 2010. 90 are listed as school parents. 58 are 80 +.

Final Steps of Census:

- focus on getting census forms returned by the 285 with giving history and the 90 with children in school. (emails, letter, phone call)
- Of those with email address, prepare final email from Msgr. Carr requesting participation in census or indication that they are no longer in St. Bridget parish.
- Phone calls to those without email addresses.
- After above is done, compile final list of no-responders and circulate to key parishioners and parish groups for identification to see if still active in parish.

Welcoming Committee Report: Elizabeth Martin reported that 4 or 5 new families were welcomed last Sunday after the 10:30 mass.

Seniors: Donna Weber reported the following:

- Blessing of Sick followed by soup and sandwich on March 10.
- Trip to Holocaust Museum on April 14.
- Trip to St. Bede's on March 30 and shopping at Williamsburg outlets.

Msgr. Carr suggested Seniors hold a Memorial Mass for deceased staff members.

Liturgy Committee: Marie Swider said that she is unable to attend the meetings and would like a parish council volunteer to attend and report on Liturgy. It is the 3rd Tuesday of month.

St. Bridget School Report: Charlene Bechely reported on the Virtual Bike Tour Around the World started by cyclists who did indeed ride around the world. The students at St. Bridget School have been chosen as one of the schools participating in this pilot project sponsored by Whole Foods. The students compete against each other and the other schools. They keep track of their miles and also study the geography of where they are traveling. Stationery bikes have been furnished to the school.

May 14: Moon Dance

May 15: Parish Council Elections

Respectfully submitted,
Alicia Meyer, Recording Secretary

Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in PCMR