

Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday, November 8, 2011

Attendance: Fr. Wojciech Pelczarski, Kathy Perlitz, Sharon Scorso, Dennis Eslinger, Tom Manning, Lou and Dorli Cloutier, Janusz Herasimowicz, Sharon Snuffer, Bonnie Benevides, Jonathan Van Dine, and Patti Cinea.

The meeting opened with prayer led by Fr. Wojciech at 7:04 p.m.

The following agenda was discussed:

1. Minutes of the October 11th meeting were reviewed with one correction- the Parish Center interior window trim received a fresh coat of paint. The minutes were then accepted.
2. **Children's Faith Formation:** Enrollment has increased to 69 children. There will be a meeting for catechists this Sunday morning to assess and evaluate progress of the classes and the program. The Youth Group met last Friday with 12 children attending. Activities included discussing the movie, **Soul Surfer**, playing games, and begin participating in a community service project entitled, Christmas Child.
3. **Safe Environments:** The parish has received a letter from the Diocese of Norwich indicating that it has received all paperwork related to background checks and those persons having completed the certificate program. Regulations regarding Safe Environments must be visibly posted. Dennis will offer another training session after the holidays. He will consolidate all Safe Environment files and consign them in the Faith Formation office. He will formulate a listing of all parishioners who currently are certified in this program.
4. **Finance Committee:** This committee met 2 weeks ago. Monetary income has improved.
5. **Property Management:** The task list is nearly completed. The new flat roof sections on the Church were inspected by a spokesperson from the membrane manufacturer. After some minor repairs, the roofing installer, Allied Roofing, will issue a certificate for a 20 year warranty. The flat roof section on the Rectory over Father's office will be assessed next. The bricks on the Church tower will be addressed this week. The plan is to spray sealant on the bricks, which should be done every 5 years, to prevent water intrusion. Once this is completed, it will be safe to focus attention on the interior of the church. The interior walls of the nave area will receive a fresh coat of paint. Undecided yet is whether to replace the damaged ceiling with replacement tiles or sheetrock. The round ceiling lights have posed problems such as lack of aesthetics, poor quality of light projected, the trapping of flies inside the fixtures, and difficulty in accessing for repairs and bulb replacement. 12 lights have been identified in the high ceiling. Discussed was the possibility of mounting pendant lights in that area that would enhance illumination and the architectural element of the interior space. The cost of purchase and installation was reviewed. To make the appearance of the rear of the church more reverent, the bulletin boards will be relocated to the vestibules. Lou will install flexible cork that will attach to the curved walls. The second confessional will be converted to a Quiet Room where parents may bring young children. A Plexiglass window will be mounted for visibility and heating for warmth. With respect to the Parish Center, the front 2 ramps have been resurfaced with concrete. The problem with erosion under the walkway will need attention. Proposed is to install drains that will divert the water away from the outside of the building towards the back of the property. The cracks to the asphalt parking lot will need repair.
6. **Property Rental:** no formal report. Fr. Wojciech has received a letter from a member of a Romanian Orthodox Church requesting approval to use this facility to host weekly Sunday worship services. Worship services would not be in the Church, but rather utilize a room in the Parish Center. Tom will follow through by seeking out more specific information with relation to time of services and any issues with respect to previous renters.
7. **BINGO:** The Town of Bolton has granted approval to commence. The electronic board will need to be mounted and will require an electrician to hardwire. There will be training workshops and practices to give callers practice before the doors are open to the public. Tentative date to begin BINGO is in February. Susan Brock is the chairperson.
8. **Pictorial Directory:** All individual and family portraits have been completed. Rescheduling of ministry group photos will be on Saturday, December 3rd at 3:00 p.m. at the Parish Center. A notice for this will be included into the bulletin. Sybil Bartone will compose the booklet.
9. **Christmas Fair:** Volunteers are needed. The Boy Scouts will be asked to assist with transporting of set up materials between the 2 buildings. There will be announcements verbally after Mass, a sign up poster and in the bulletin to solicit volunteers. There are 34 professional crafters participating this year.

10. The history of the interior nave of the church was reviewed with attention to the moving of the Tabernacle from behind the altar its present location, and the Baptismal Font from the back of the Church to its current site.

11. **Phone Project:** All Council members participating in the telephone campaign of contacting members of the parish on the inactive list should have received the Excel Spread Sheet by email. Sherry presented two versions of a letter to be mailed to inactive members indicating interest in returning back to the parish. The letter would thank these persons for their time and frankness, and update them on changes in Mass times, leadership, ministries and socials. Kathy volunteered to assist her with the letter composition. Target date would be to have the letters ready for mailing the week of November 20th.

12. **BEC:** The annual Bolton Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be Tuesday, November 22nd at the Bolton Congregational Church at 7:00 p.m. There will be both a financial offering to assist the BEC with its activities in servicing the community, as well as a collection of nonperishable food goods to help stock the Bolton Food Pantry. The meeting concluded at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Cinea