

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of February 12, 2013

Attendance: Fr. Wojciech Pelczarski, Kathy Perlitz, Dorli and Lou Cloutier, Sharon Snuffer, Tom Manning, Ron Massimino, Jonathan Van Dine, and Patti Cinea.

The meeting opened at 7:05 pm with prayer. The following was discussed:

1. The minutes of the meeting in December was reviewed and accepted.
2. **Children's Faith Formation:** First Reconciliation will be held on Saturday, May 11th, followed by First Holy Communion on May 12th. There are seven candidates in this class. There will be a retreat for both candidates and their parents on April 21st. Confirmation ceremonies will be held Saturday, May 25th during the Vigil Mass. Required for future Confirmation students will be the completion of parish community service hours. Last day of CCD classes is Sunday, April 28th.
3. **Safe Environments:** The Diocese has implemented the *Electronic Communications, Internet and Computer Use Policy*. Parishioners can access this information through the diocesan website and parish office. It addresses appropriate behavior when communicating information between adults and minors via electronic contact devices.
4. **Pastoral Planning:** no new information.
5. **Finances:** The parish is currently paying down the loan for replacement of sections of the Church roof.
6. **Property Management:** A new pole light has been installed to better illuminate the parking area behind the cemetery. The phone system servicing all three buildings has been remediated. The septic system plans have been reviewed and updated. With the increase in cost for utilities, measures to foster conservation of energy are currently being explored and/or implemented. Should the parish consider alternative energy? Exterior doors in the Parish Center Hall have been weather-stripped. This treatment is being considered for the exterior doors and classroom windows to help eliminate drafts. Current windows in the Parish Center are single pane. Plans include obtaining cost estimates for replacement of exterior doors and thermal pane windows. Would the creation of an atrium type of structure in front of this building best protect and create energy conservation? Due to a recent storm, a window in the kitchen broke, with water intruding. This window needs replacement, along with 2 cracked classroom windows. The cabinets along the exterior Library wall block the radiators. Their doors should be left open during the winter months to ease the flow of heat. The existing vinyl tile flooring on the upper floor of the Parish Center requires annual cleaning and refinishing at a cost of approximately \$1700. Discussed was installing carpeting in the main hall, hallway, and Library. The Parish Office is carpeted. **Servpro** has offered to shampoo the rugs yearly with no charge for this service. The Fair Group has offered to fund the cost of the carpeting. Repair to cracks in the parking pavement will be addressed this Spring. Recommended is to remove the two old water storage tanks in the Parish Center storeroom whose plumbing is rusted and in danger of rupturing. Each tank holds 250 gallons of water. Cost is about \$3400. **M&M Oil Co.** would do the removal with installation of a new pressure tank. The flat roof sections of the Rectory roof will need replacement due to a history of water intrusion. The exterior bricks on the Church are due for waterproofing. The application for next year's food service license has been filed. This would cover parish events such as Bingo and the KOC breakfasts. The Fair Group files a separate license. Ministries and users of the kitchen facilities are expected to maintain proper oversight. Please check dates on food to avoid contamination. Return items to their proper places. Take inventory of supplies to avoid the next usage group from purchasing goods in a hurried manner. Before exiting the building, review the posted checklist to assure thermostats are reset, lights turned off, and exterior doors latched. The Council recommended reinstating the automatic delivery of oil to prevent a sudden shortage. **M&M** historically has given the parish a discount in price for oil. The question arose as to whether this company allows contracts for price capping off season, in hopes of purchasing oil at a lower price for the next heating season.
7. **Facility Usage:** There was one rental of the Parish Center in 2012. There is one event scheduled already for 2013.

8. **Evangelization:** Proposed is a postcard mailing to households in the towns of Bolton, Andover, Coventry and Hebron to advertise and promote this parish. Calendar events such as the Pancake Breakfasts, Bingo, Christmas Fair, and other activities, as well as Mass schedules can be included in the 6X9 inch postcard. This would be a form of outreach, foster welcoming and building new membership, as well keeping current parishioners informed of special dates and Masses. Cost to the parish would be approximately \$900 for each quarterly mailing. This parish now is advertised in *Everything Bolton, CT* on **Facebook**. Proposed also was to offer new members to the parish a free KOC pancake breakfast.
9. **Bingo:** Attendance slightly dropped over the winter holidays. Even the fall of light snow appears to effect turnout. It is expected that attendance will grow in the spring and summer months. Anticipated is that the Progressive Jackpot now will be capped at \$500 and played out until a winner.
10. **Senior Youth Group:** On February 2nd, 5 high school students met in the Library to begin formulating a separate Senior Youth Group for our parish. They will meet again March 15th and may bring a friend. Youth are encouraged to actively participate in the planning process.
12. **Adult Faith Formation:** As part of offering adult parishioners different ways of engaging in faith oriented activities, the parish will begin a Catholic Book Club. The first book chosen by Fr. Wojciech is St. Augustine's *Confessions*. Advertisement and sign-up will ensue.
13. Theresa maintains a large master wall calendar in her office. Please contact her to post events for facility use to ensure no conflicts arise.
14. The **2013 Annual Catholic Appeal** is underway. More information will be presented to parishioners during weekend Masses.

The meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Cinea