

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of September 10, 2013

Attendance: Fr. Wojciech Pelczarski, Kathy Perlitz, Ron Massimino, Janusz Herasimowicz, Tom Manning, Sharon Snuffer, Mike Harney and Patti Cinea.

Guests: Susan Brock and Bill Hebert.

The meeting opened with prayer at 7:05 p.m.

1. Minutes of August's meeting were reviewed and accepted.
2. **Bingo:** Susan and Bill provided a report. There is a need for more volunteers, especially those persons willing to act as substitutes while the regular volunteers are away or to provide general coverage. New volunteers needed are callers, kitchen workers, and floor help. Attendance is averaging 42 players. There is a need for more players to increase the profit margin and realistically establish Bingo as a gainful fundraiser. \$40 is needed as an initial start up for the kitchen purchases each week. Bingo has reimbursed the parish \$2000 of the \$3000 initial start up costs. Financial revenues have been provided to the Finance Council. Recommendations are to offer a free meal, such as a spaghetti dinner, when the jackpot restarts to draw in more players. Winter brings higher building utility costs and darkness. A suggestion made is to offer older adult players transportation.
3. **Faith Formation:** Children's Faith Formation classes will begin in 2 weeks. Enrollment is 48 students. New registrants are anticipated as the class year commences. To enhance classroom instruction, an ideal would be to have mounted flat screen TVs with DVDs in classrooms five and six. The Adult Faith Formation will begin with the *Gospel of John*. A EWTN Home video series by Dr. Timothy Gray, a Catholic biblical scholar, will supplement the reading. Program start is pending a workable system to play the DVDs onto the projector screen in the Parish Hall.
4. **Finance:** The fiscal year ended June 30th. Mike provided a comprehensive overview of parish finances including the balance in savings as well as investment accounts. There has been a down trend in offertory as noted to weekly comparisons to last year's. The parish is sustainable at present; however, with inflation and rises in utility costs, this will need further addressing. The Finance Council will provide an annual report to parishioners in early November.
5. **Property Management:** Water intrusion in both the Church and Rectory buildings back in June during the heavy rains were reviewed. The drain outflow in the Rectory garage will need to be snaked. The Church basement floor currently is being scraped. Afterwards, new applications of paint will be applied. This will be covered by insurance. The new boiler in the Rectory is not heating water properly and will need to be addressed. The cracks in pavement in parking areas have been cleared out; however, the company has not returned to fill with asphalt. Tom will contact Lou Cloutier for direction.
6. Parishioners have commented on the clustering of second offertory collections. These are set by the Diocese, not the parish. Tom will check with Theresa on the schedule.
7. Issues of purchases for the parish by select parishioners, such as food gift cards for distribution to the needy during the holidays, and payment of the phone bill, were discussed. The concern is the personal expense with need to await reimbursement. Mike will contact Bill Russell at the Chancery for recommendations.
8. **Evangelization:** Postcard mailings began today. Targeted are households in the parish boundaries of Bolton, Coventry, Andover and Hebron.
9. **Christmas Fair:** The Wednesday Workshop is progressing well. Professional crafter booth spaces are almost filled. Extra volunteers will be needed to help out the week of and the day of the Fair. Last year, donations of baked goods were lower. We need bakers!!!! Parishioners are encouraged to provide a donation and include the recipe!
10. The internet is often down in the Parish Office. This will need further exploration.
11. A course in Prison Ministry is being offered this month by the Diocese.

The meeting concluded at 9 pm.

The next meetings are tentatively set for October 8th, November 12th and December 10th.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Cinea