

St. Maurice Parish Council Meeting of March 8, 2011

Attendance: Fr. Wojciech Pelczarski, Kathy Perlitz, Sharon Scorso, Rella Bernabucci, Sharon Snuffer, Janusz Herasimowicz, Dorli and Lou Cloutier, Tom Manning, Ron Massimino, Dennis Eslinger, and Patti Cinea.

The meeting opened with prayer at 7:15 p.m.

The following agenda was discussed:

1. The minutes of the meeting of February 20th were reviewed with the following correction: five-six roofing contractors submitted estimated costs last Fall for replacement of the FLAT roof sections of the church and rectory, not full roof sections. The minutes were then accepted.
2. **Faith Formation:** Rella stated that the Confirmation Prep students will be attending a retreat on March 25-27th in Garrison, N.Y. Later on April 1st and 2nd, these students will participate also in a Food Fast. This entails fasting for about 24 hours, with proceeds raised donated to Catholic Relief Services. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on May 22nd, 10:30 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church. Tom clarified that beginning the next school calendar year, St. Maurice Church will have its own, separate, Faith Formation Program. It will follow the Bishop's framework on catechesis, and that a two year Confirmation Prep Program, instead of a single year, could be created. Ninth grade would be the start of this program, with Confirmation in the Spring of the 10th grade. Suggestions were made regarding advertisement of registration for the upcoming year, including the placement of two banners on the lawn in between Hebron Road and the parking lot, as well the church website and local newspapers. Patti will follow through with the newspapers. Tom will hold a meeting for youth interested in participating in Youth Group Ministry on April 1st, during the Lenten Fish Dinner. He will provide those attending with an outline of Youth Group.
3. **Finance:** The Parish Council acknowledged the resignation of Ray Lemaire as chairperson, and member of the Finance Council. The Parish Council wishes to extend an expression of gratitude to Ray for his endeavors in this role. Fr. Wojciech announced that he is awaiting completion of the finance report from the auditor. He will ask Theresa to include the Annual Report on Income and Expenditures for July 1, 2009 – July 1, 2010 into the bulletin. He will hold a special meeting of the Finance Council in April/May to include a decision on how to proceed with financing the flat sections of the church and rectory buildings. He will have a meeting with the representative from Catholic Mutual Insurance Company to clarify whether damages to the interior of the church related to the repeated water intrusion due to the ice dams are reimbursable.
4. **Property Management:** Lou provided an update of many projects currently underway. The replacement of the flat roof sections on the church and rectory buildings requires a consistent outside temperature of equal or greater than 50 degrees Fahrenheit. He is presently in the process of obtaining quotes as to cost. These quotes will be both in replacement of the entirety of the flat sections and if broken down into roof segments. Tom has provided aerial views of both buildings, which will assist in formulating the square footage of the sections involved. The goal will be to replace the flat sections with adding slightly elevated tapered sections to move water towards the drains. With relation to the cleaning of the Parish Center and Church buildings, Admiral Cleaners has failed to provide adequate work and there has been no oversight by management. Lou is anticipating a meeting with another interested company. Four coats of sealer have been applied to the vinyl tile floors on the main hall of the Parish Center to help prevent damage. An expression of

gratitude goes to the Fair Group for paying of the \$1600 expense. This winter proved challenging in terms of snow removal. The parish has a contract for the plowing of snow from the parking lot; however, the removal of snow on the pathways has depended on a hearty group of parish volunteers. Next autumn, Lou will be seeking a team of people to undertake this task next winter. There were over 100 tasks identified in need of attention, many of which have been completed by volunteers. This has benefitted the parish in terms of cost savings. A suggestion was made to solicit volunteers for specific tasks in the bulletin.

5. **Safe Environments:** Dennis is seeking to be certified in May as a trainer for the Praesidium Training Program, and will offer this program to parishioners also in May. He urged on the necessity of following safe environment protocols and strategies with regards to protection of children and adults. As an alternative to this program, the Diocese also offers an on line Armatus Training Program.

6. Sharon Scorso announced that the **Letter to Parishioners** was forwarded also to 300 inactive parishioner households.

7. Tom and Patti this summer will review the Constitution for the Parish of Saint Maurice document, noting possible needed changes to the bylaws. Communication will be done through email correspondence.

8. The possibility of rental of the Parish Center is in its infancy as it involves the forming of contracts, legal oversight, insurance provisions, and other issues. Kathy and Sharon Scorso will confer both with the parish lawyer and property insurance representative on this subject.

9. Who has keys to the Parish Center? Ron is working on this issue of security for the building. New locks were placed on the doors to and in the Church several years ago with a listing of parishioners who were issued new keys. A suggestion was made to invest in placing new locks to the doors of the Parish Center, with a no duplicating key, and replicate the process of identifying who needs keys, and formulating a log of those who receive them.

10. Tom will continue to work on marketing for the parish.

11. The process of electing new representatives to the Parish Council will be addressed in the next meeting in April.

12. Sharon Snuffer will sponsor a Movie Night on Saturday, March 19th, 7:00 pm. There will be drinks and freshly popped corn. Announcements will be made from the pulpit and bulletin.

13. Fr. Wojciech announced that a social gathering place for youth will be in the lower level of the church. This area is also used by the Boy Scouts, is well lit, and has a complete kitchen and rest room facilities. Perhaps someone has a gently used ping pong, or fuse ball machine that they would like to donate? Please contact Father.

The meeting closed with prayer at 8:50 p.m. Next meeting: Tuesday, April 12th at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Cinea