

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Council Minutes, June 21, 2010

Meeting was called to order by President Jim Gardner @ 7:00 pm. In attendance: Romaine Rupp, Bridget Wheatley, Linda Massino, Judy Roach, Betty Pucci, Gerry Sears, Al Weir, Jim Delclos, Fr. McKenna, Nancy McGee, Jim Gardner, Maria Lehman, and Colleen DeMott. Charlie O'Donnell was excused.

Opening prayer offered by Bridget Wheatley.

Old Business: None

New Business: Installation of new Parish council members, Nancy McGee, Betty Pucci, Gerry Sears, and Al Weir. Each member spoke briefly as to why they chose to join the council. Election of officers: Judy Roach nominated Jim Delclos as president of the council. The nomination was seconded by Bridget Wheatley and Jim was elected. Linda Massino nominated Maria Lehman as vice president. The nomination was seconded by Nancy McGee and Maria was elected. Colleen DeMott will continue as secretary of the council. Father McKenna thanked the new members for volunteering their time to the parish council. There was no election this year. Judy Roach and Maria Lehman reported that most people approached to run gave reasons of being too busy, already serving the parish in another capacity, or not feeling welcomed by committees in the past.

Pastor's Update: On June 14th we received 4 bids on the renovation project. The bids came in much lower than anticipated. Commonwealth Construction was awarded the contract. Fr. McKenna will be meeting with the construction company on Friday, June 25th. The project is estimated to take 120 days. The sanctuary renovation is considered the core project. Due to the lower than anticipated bids, other parts of the renovations project will be able to be done. Our pews will be refurbished and refinished, new lighting and new sound system, new carpeting and wanes coating will be included. We are still hoping for more parish participation in the Capital Campaign. Our church AC is in need of replacement. This may be done at the same time as the renovation project but the cost will be covered by separate finance council budget.

Our Parish Mission will begin November 28, 2010. Father is hoping the mission and renovations events will support each other in a physical and spiritual way.

Council Ministries Reports:

Building/Maintenance-Update AC for church only this year. Consideration is being given to changing to a heat pump system.

Liturgy Committee: Maria Lehman-Fr. Pete Shavitz spoke with committee regarding mission. Fr. George is the chairperson of the mission. Our job is to fill the church for the mission on Sunday November 28th and Fr. Shavitz will take it from there. Fr. John trained some Spanish speaking students to be altar servers and this is going well.

Christian Formation: Betty Pucci-CCD classes are complete. First Communion students were not well prepared for starting their First Communion classes. We need more parent participation. A suggestion was made to have several mandatory parent meetings throughout the year. We would like the families of First Communion children to be contacted and invited to attend the mission. Adult Bible Study program has been very well attended and appreciated.

Social Concerns: Bridget Wheatley-No report

Pastoral Care: Bridget Wheatley- Daily visits to nursing homes and hospital continue. Maria Lehman will be commissioned as a Eucharistic Minister. Pray shawl ministry is going very well. Meetings are well attended and pray filled! Fr. McKenna added that it would be nice to commemorate Margaret Monaco by dedicating food/money collections during Thanksgiving/Christmas for feeding the poor in her name.

Parish Life: Linda Massino- Parish picnic is this weekend. A youth pool party will be next month.

Cemetery Board: Colleen DeMott- No report. Fr. McKenna reports the Memorial Day Mass at the cemetery was the best attended in his time here. Discussed possibly changing the Parish Picnic to occur following this mass in the future.

Bridget Wheatley discussed our parish need for a software program to enhance our communication within the parish community. Due to the cost of such a program it was suggested that the idea needs to be presented to the Finance Council for future consideration.

Jim Gardner gave closing remarks as the outgoing president. He expressed that the Parish Council has accomplished a great deal and should continue its efforts to strengthen our parish community. Some of the accomplishments were supporting the renovations project and supporting church community through posting parish council members board and monthly minutes in the back of church. Closing prayer was offered by Fr. McKenna and meeting was adjourned at 8:00.