

St. Joseph's Church Parish Council
June 29, 2015

Present: Rev. Peter Worn, Malcolm Bienvenu, Julie Brissette, Patricia Butler, Rosemary Carr, Carmella Dalton, John Ferguson, Robert Fiorelli, Karen Hopkins, David Kaminski, Nancy Light, Dennis McGough, Lorraine Pigula, Susan Ross, Al Thompson

Excused: Hannah Humphrey, Grainger Sasso, Jane Sylvester

Guest: none at this meeting

At 6:30 pm, President Dennis McGough called the Parish Council meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: Pat Butler

Privilege of the Floor (visitors' comments)

No comments

Approve Parish Council minutes

Approve the May 4, 2015 Parish Council meeting minutes; motion to approve as written: **Susan Ross/Malcolm Bienvenu; unanimously approved**

Old Business

Rebuilt: Chapter 15 comments & next steps

- Page 259: third paragraph, first sentence
- Page 260: phrase in gray; gets to the heart of how we need to proceed
- Book closed well; parish is doing many of the things the book talks about; electronic opportunity to reach people is key
- Page 261: We are called to give leadership sentence
- The Living Parish – book written by Father Champlin – clearly states what a parish should be; people need to feel welcome and comfortable in the parish and at Mass (greeters)
- Book begs the question: do we have a problem at St. Joe's? If so, what is it and how do we address it? If we simply need to tweak certain things, a different approach; what do we want to do and where do we want to go?
- Momentous time in the Catholic church; be hopeful; use every tool available to reach people who are and are not in the parish
- Identifying people in the parish and community; consumer-driven/disciples; grateful that Council read the book

New Business

Fill membership vacancies

Dennis thanked Bob Fiorelli and his committee for their work; Bob Fiorelli thanked Father Peter for his efforts to recruit volunteers

Candidates: Daniel Dombroski, Myra Dombroski, William Mathewson, Heidi Stemkoski, John Sullivan, Robert Vertucci

Julie Brissette spoke with Mr. & Mrs. Dombroski who are both interested in joining Parish Council; however, they go to Florida from Christmas to Easter; reservations expressed about their extended absence.

Father Peter stated that the quality of all applicants is outstanding. He sent a note to all applicants thanking them for their interest and encouraged those not selected to consider volunteering in another capacity

Council members are impressed with all the resumes that were submitted

Motion to vote on new Parish Council members: Bob Fiorelli/Susan Ross; unanimous

Bob Fiorelli distributed the ballot to each Council member

Majority vote for: William Mathewson, John Sullivan, Heidi Stemkoski, Robert Vertucci

Father Peter will contact Daniel and Myra Dombroski

Dennis McGough will contact the newly elected members

Nominating Committee

- Establish membership at the September meeting
- Begin the process in March to recruit new members

Thank you to outgoing Council members

Dennis McGough thanked Malcolm Bienvenu, Patricia Butler, Rosemary Carr, and Bob Fiorelli for their service

Election of officers

Dennis commented that although he would continue to serve as president, the time may be right to elect a new president.

President: Dennis McGough nominated; unanimously elected

Vice President: Susan Ross nominated; unanimously elected

Secretary: Karen Hopkins nominated; unanimously elected

Approve 2015-16 meeting calendar

Day: Monday

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Location: Rectory conference room

Dates:	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
	September 28	January 25
	November 16	March 7
		May 9
		June 13

Motion to approve the 2015-16 Parish Council calendar: Dave Kaminski/Bob Fiorelli; unanimous

Parish Committee Reports

Faith in Action/Facilities

- Final walk through with Rich & Gardner and Heidi Stemkoski, architect
- \$50,000 will remain in the fund; additional projects targeted in the engineering study will be explored
- Transitioning from Faith in Action to Construction/Facilities envelope
- Discussion of potential projects

Other committee reports

- Financial audit is complete; parish operating budget will be in the black
- John Heagerty is doing an outstanding job of overseeing the parish budget
- Parish financial health is best in many years
- Change in the Mass schedule = loss in funds

Parishioner Feedback

- Parishioner request to install a crucifix between the two windows in the Upper Room; discussion
- Parishioners are very happy with the Upper Room
- Some parishioners are unhappy with the summer Mass schedule
- Parishioner concern about the Adoration Chapel: 1) people attending Mass from the chapel – furniture is moved, toys and books brought in, coffee cups left behind; 2) adoration door is locked and adorers can't gain access to the chapel on Sundays; 3) concern that the space is not being treated as reverently as it needs to be

Pastor's Comments

- 1) A change in Mass schedule is a diocesan directive; has received mixed feedback
- 2) Thank you to all for active care, concern and interest in our parish; grateful to God and the Holy Spirit
- 3) Staff changes over the past year have not disrupted the health of the parish
- 4) Physical changes over the past years have greatly benefited the worship space; sense of community in the Upper Room has exceeded all expectations
- 5) Thanks to Dennis, Susan and Karen for their efforts over the past year
- 6) Thanks to parish trustees for their counsel and support
- 7) Summer is a time for rejuvenation

Prayer Leader

September 28, 2015 meeting: Dave Kaminski

Closing Prayer: Pat Butler

At 7:33 p.m., the Parish Council meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by,

Karen A. Hopkins
Secretary, Parish Council

Next meeting: September 21, 2015; 6:30 pm