

St. John Neumann Parish Council Minutes

August 24, 2010

Members Present:

Fr. John, June Wessa, Jay Janda, Jerry Campbell, Chris Linder, Nancy Eggener, Bill Mitchell, Melanie Dobner, Julie Schramke, Mary Coffin, Ted Kuemmel, Mary Ficke, Len Fortier, Ken Maio

Members Absent:

Rich Burgardt, Tom Sams

We Assemble in God's Name:

Bill Mitchell led the opening prayer and Scripture reading.

We Celebrate Our Past:

Minutes from our last meeting were reviewed.

Pastors Report: Fr. John listed some of the suggestions he received from council members. These included: increasing volunteerism, increasing presence in the community, efficient use of staff, increasing number of choir members, focus on children's religious education, growing the parish, and recognition of high school graduates. Father will continue to listen to the concerns and suggestions of the parish.

Fr. John is looking for a volunteer to coordinate an outreach program for the college students of our parish.

We Present Our Offering:

Bill Mitchell presented information from the finance committee meeting, namely that the parish is short approximately \$35,000 for the fiscal year ending June 2010. A good portion of this shortage can be attributed to the poor weather we had for our church festival, causing a smaller profit than budgeted. Bill also noted Faith in our Future contributions have slowed. It was suggested that members of the finance committee address the parish at mass to share this information and ask parishioners to increase their donations and to follow up on their commitment to Faith in our Future. This topic will be discussed further at September's council meeting. Father proposed having the ushers count the number of people at each mass, to get a good number of attendees and to watch for patterns.

No other committees met in August.

Archbishop ListECKI has accepted an invitation to celebrate mass and bless the Rosary path completed by Ben Schramke. This will take place on October 10th. Several suggestions were made regarding preparation for the Archbishop's visit. Julie Schramke will take the lead on this, Bill Mitchell and Nancy Eggener agreed to help. June Wessa will be the staff liaison.

Fr. John asked June to share her thoughts on Life-Long Faith Formation. This evolved into a discussion of GOF, specifically the perceived needs for children's ministry. Ideas included: finding funds for a children's minister, putting out the call for parish volunteers, and offering a children's mass. We agreed that with each idea, it still was a matter of getting more parishioners involved. Bulletin announcements and personal invitations from council members were suggested. Jerry proposed that we, as council members, set the example and reach out to our parish. He suggested the council start by attending meeting night, sitting in on committee meetings even if we are not the liaison.

Go in God's Name

Nancy Eggener led the closing prayer.

Important dates:

September 7 – Meeting night

September 21 – Tentative picnic with Christ the Servant

September 28 – Next council meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Eggener