

Holy Spirit Catholic Community – Pocatello, ID**Parish Council Meeting****April 17, 2007****I Welcome, Opening Prayer**

- Opening comments from Rich Diehl.
- Present: Paul Yochum, Jennifer Adkison, Tom Belcher, Jerry Downey, Rich Diehl, Ramon Gutierrez, Cathy Heggenberger, Jane Vitale, Virginia Robinson, Brad Bugger, Ex Officio member Kathy Barkdull, Ann Hysell, and Secretary Debbie Gallegos
- Excused: David Alexander.
- Absent: Sara Castillo

II Review of last month minutes

Jerry D. motioned to accept the March minutes and Virginia R. seconded it.

III Capital Campaign Update: Kathy B.

Currently to date we have \$1.845 million in pledges. \$264,000.00 collected from pledges. Follow-up Committee will be doing calls and mailings. Jennifer A. asked for clarification on the total collected and does this include the people that are on a payment plan. Kathy B. stated that it did.

IV Finance Council: Paul Y.

Last Finance Council Meeting was held on April 10th. Collections are down for a second month in a row but year to date the collection totals are close to last year. We expect April to be a good month. 57% has been collected to date for the Idaho Catholic Appeal, not a big surprise that the percentage is a bit lower than last year due to the Capital Campaign. The Diocese currently has two capital campaigns going right now for the Priests Retirement Housing and the Administration building. The Idaho Catholic Register Editor has retired and changes are coming with possible upgrades to the paper. A Conflict of Interest Clause will be put in the contracts and bids for the new building, so that it will protect us and the contractors. A sub-committee for Finance has been formed and headed by Phil Blick. They looked at different sized loans that we could get. They decided that in the 1st phase the parish could not afford a loan at this time but they will meet again in the summer and look at it again.

V Building Task Force: Brad B.

The Building Core committee had meet on April 16th. At this point we are going to focus on getting a church built. Discussion on architects and whether we should continue with BCDM or look for another one. It was decided that we will give them another chance. Kathy B. stated that Larry H. met with the developers and decided we would possibly get 4 million on the excess property. City is still very interested in working with us. The Fundraising Committee is working on having monthly fundraisers with all the different organizations of the parish. They understand that big money will not be raised but will bring the community together. It was asked by the Fundraising Committee that this council approve the proposal to invite each organization to host a monthly fundraiser. They would like to hold one major fundraiser a month. Brad B. made a motion to accept the proposal and Cathy H. 2nd it. The motion was carried. Jane V. stated that there is a concern of the use of the community and a negative approach that we are going to go on with the plans no matter what. Paul Y. stated that the sale of the excess property on Gathe Road is a key resource. He also asked who would do the PR work. Kathy B. replied that we have talked to various neighbors around the Gathe Road property to get the communications open. Brad B. suggested that we should have a neighborhood meeting with the people in the area to answer any questions that they may have and get the communications going. Jennifer A. asked if our new church will increase the property values for the people in that area. It will depend on the city and what they want to do.

VI School: Virginia R.

Child Care is having financial problems right now. They need to figure out a way to make the child care program more profitable. It is a very good program, it just needs to tighten up and make stricter rules and regulations. PTC is holding on to excess cash to help with summer wages. They will be increasing tuition 5% to be able to increase teacher's wages. They have had 4 candidates for the Kindergarten teacher opening. 30% of the school budget should be funded by the Parish. They figure that the parish is only giving 10% right now. Kathy B. stated that they do not see that the Parish pays for Property and Liability Insurance which brings it closer to the 30%. There is a waiting list for some classes.

VII Athletic Committee: Tom B.

They have revised the language in the new policy and are still working on the 2nd page which will include the fees. Athletic Committee would like to Parish Council to vote on page 1 at this meeting. They met with David D. and the Scouts last week. The Scout program is not a replacement for Religious Education but an addition to it. Currently they are going to plan three events with the Religious Education program. A motion was made by Tom B. to adopt the 1st phase of the agreement and Brad B. 2nd it. The motion was carried.

VIII Faith Formation and Youth Ministry: Ann H.

Ann handed out a handout explaining what has been going on the last few years and what they would like to do in the coming year. She would like to see whole community involvement. Faith Camp (formerly Vacation Bible School) will be held in June. There were 26 people confirmed this past weekend from Holy Spirit and 9 from St. Bernard's. The Faith Formation Commission will have a planning meeting in May. The Sunday afternoon program is weak. Diane Stinger is working out very well and she will be going to training this summer. Many of the 2nd graders from the school attended the Sacramental Prep. or classes on Sundays. Sacramental Prep. Classes seemed to work better when they are held on a week day.

IX Review of Parish Leadership Retreat: Rich D.

The mission and vision statement copies were handed out at this meeting. A motion was made by Paul Y. to accept the mission and vision statement as drafted; Jerry D. 2nd and the motion were carried. Copies will be handed out at the Town Hall meeting for that the whole parish can comment on them.

X New Business:

Due to out clustering with American Falls and Aberdeen; Father Justin will be going to Mexico for a 2 month immersion in Spanish. American Falls will pay one full priest salary. Father Enrique will be administrator for American Falls and Aberdeen, but Pastor here at Holy Spirit. This will all start July 1st. Father Justin will be spending most of his time in American Falls and Aberdeen once he has returned from Mexico. Father Ben Uhlenkott will be assigned to help out at our Parish along with American Falls and Aberdeen.

Kathy B. stated that she needed volunteers for the symbols at the Good Friday Service. Six people from Parish Council volunteered.

Jane V. asked about changing the date of Parish Council Elections so that families have a chance to know what is going on. Rich D. will look into the Bylaws and see what can be done.

Virginia R. stated that there have been some concerns about the St. Joseph Restoration Project; people are asking why we are putting money into restoring St. Joseph when we are trying to build a new church. Paul Y. replied by saying that it was noted in previous bulletins and newsletter that there are plans to restore St. Joseph to its 1930's condition. We are trying to preserve and keep open St. Joseph for baptisms and weddings. There are still funds available for the upkeep of St. Joseph. The only money that will come from the Parish for restoration is the Baptismal Font. The additional funds will come from matching grant monies.

Paul Y. asked about the Prayers of the Faithful responses. He thought the tri-language responses would go away after Lent. He would like to make a recommendation to Karen H. and Father Enrique to reduce the amount of time that we do the tri-language responses.

Rich D. read the response that Father Enrique had regarding Jane V.'s proposal that was handed out at the last council meeting. "We cannot question the Vitality Project and Father Taylor's article. We have received approval from the Bishop." Father Enrique's intent to go ahead with the building of the new church and school. Jane V. stated that she is not comfortable with what is going on in our church community. We might have other options and we need to keep our minds open. We have squashed a lot of good ideas that people have had. Jerry D. stated that it would not be practical to reopen the Vitality Project. Kathy B. stated that they looked into clustering five years ago and now it is becoming a reality. Jane V. stated that she feels alienated but not alone in her concerns. Virginia R. suggested that she get a group together and go to the Town Meeting and air their concerns. Jane V. feels that the council was stacked (forced). Brad B. explained how it was when he started on the council. He did not feel pressures at all. Jane V. stated many people can not handle conflict and maybe that is why the money has not come in like you wanted. Brad B. commented that he feels very strongly that we need to keep going because of the three older chapels and the cost of up keep is rising. Jane V. spoke about a dream that she had about how St. Anthony could be restored. She met with architects and they stated that the buildings could be restored for half the cost of a new church.

XI Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned with closing prayer. The next meeting will be at 7:00 pm on May 15th in the Pastoral Life Center.

Minutes submitted by: Debbie Gallegos, Secretary

Minutes approved by: _____ Date: _____