

Meeting Agenda

Parish of St. Rita

Parish Council

Meeting Name:	Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Date:	1/26/2009
Time:	6:30 – 8:30 pm
Location:	Modular Classroom – east

Members in attendance:

Father Tom, Jim Kelly, Lisa Burns, Ken Borick, Bill Linder, Felita Asteinza, Joe Colello, Dave Delahoussaye, Kitty Boe, Shonda Trantina, Ellen O'Connell, Lyn Colello, Don Rutland, Judy Rutland, Mike Klein, Dave Casey, Terry Casey

Objectives

This is the first council meeting of the fiscal year.

- Update of Action Items from Previous Meeting
 - News letter to the Parish to share Progress, Power point presentation – discussion about possibility of creating newsletter similar to annual report
 - Purchase of upright Freezer – paid for by parish, used by Men's Club and Wednesday Spirit Night
 - Exterior Lighting Maintenance & Church Pews cleaning – additional lighting added outside of church, playground flood lights, and outside MSS. Inside church up lights turned down. Cleaning of pews will be done on Parish work day in April.
 - Spanish Mass replacement Priest – Father Alvero (from Navarre) agreed to serve us. Masses will stay bi-monthly. Hope to have weekly masses somewhere in future.
 - Update on construction timing
- Review the operating budget
 1. Offertory collection decreased over last quarter (Jul 1, 08 – Jan 26, 09); total income down about \$20,000. Concern over trend continuing over next two quarters. Right now, down about \$2, 000.
- Discuss the current Economy and its effect on the budget
 2. Local rentals are down 30% per Don Rutland per newspaper. Per Ellen, Christmas donations down from previous year. Felita discussed budget cuts with education.

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3. Ken asked about cutting expenses of parish. Father Tom has freeze on current expenses (not spending currently).
 4. Discussion about how to ask parishners to keep giving even in hard times. Judy Rutland suggested putting together a committee about local financial issues and local resources. Judy will follow up with Father Tom to create a program to assist parish members.
 5. Dave discussed concern of pulling funds from savings account.
 6. Shonda shared how members of our parish want the church and other parish members to reach out to them during hard times. Some members are feeling cut off or upset due to neglect.
 7. Felita reminded members to go to Prayer chapel and writing down prayers. Church prays for the intentions daily.
 8. Current savings is \$485,194. Outstanding loan is \$492,215.
 9. Parish households (125) pledged \$971,746 and \$284,083 has been paid as of 12/31/2008. Remaining to be paid: \$687, 663, diocesan share is \$378,000 with St. Rita portion as \$309,663.
 10. 2nd collection averages 100,000 per year to savings
 11. Additional fees to be paid: interest on loan \$52,000; Mitigation \$85,000; and county fees \$16,000-35,000. Don shared the county fee may be reduced to help local economy.
 12. Total income \$924,857 minus expense \$664,215 = \$360,642
 13. ADD TO BULLETIN: building fund envelopes in pews are NOT to be used for Share the Vision/Building the Faith campaign. Parishners should have received SPECIAL envelopes for the Building the Faith campaign from the diocese. Envelopes in the pew are for contributions for general building fund/savings account.
 14. Savings account divided into 3 areas: Building Fund, Capital Campaign, and Hurricane Fund
- Second review of the operating budget for suggestions
 1. Rough cost estimate of children's campus building
 2. Maximum estimate from GAC is \$507,848; Minimal estimate is \$382,778.
 3. First price is 100% completion whereas second price is minimal needed to get building in place and up and running (basic certificate of occupancy).
 4. Discussion about evolution of development of family life center and children's campus.

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5. Discussion about funding available from diocese – parish would need to borrow roughly \$664,000. Maybe keep savings in pocket and borrow money.
 6. Church may need to enter into savings to cover church expenses. Discussion on risk factor of borrowing money vs. to current economy state
 7. Bill Linder suggested – looking at current situation – general consensus is to wait a year and to review information and economy at that time.
 8. Ken suggested giving St. Joe an option on the building to lock in the purchase of the price.
 9. General consensus is to not spend all of savings at this time.
- Summer of 2009 Assembly Days to set a course for the next three years.
 1. Group discussed progress on original goals for parish.
 2. Time to set up new goals for next 3 year plan.
 3. Judy Rutland would like to see attendance of monthly Eucharistic Adoration increase. Father Tom shared that like the Wednesday night Spirit Night, adoration will take time for the program to grow.
 4. Set up calendar for Assembly Days.
 5. Joe Colello Entered into the record that the St. Rita Men’s Club and the CCW donated \$2500.00 dollars to The Saint Vincent de Paul Society, This was a portion of the profits generated from the January 2009 Fish Fry. The Parish Council acknowledges all the hard work that all of the volunteers donated.

Opening Prayer

Agenda Item	Time Allotted	Lead Facilitator
Meeting Objectives	5 minutes	Jim Kelly
Acton Item Update	10 minutes	Jim Kelly
1 st review operating budget	15 minutes	Father Tom
Effect of Current economy	30 minutes	Father Tom
2 nd review & suggestions	30 minutes	Father Tom
Assembly days	20 minutes	Father Tom
Next Steps	20 minutes	Open