

St. Augustin Parish  
Parish Council Meeting  
October 13, 2009

Present: Fr. Polich, Emily Duong, Todd Erzen, Sandra Mosley, Joe Kobes, Joe Dullard, and Milt Anania

Absent: Rob Den Hartog, Sherill Whisenand, and Fr. Emmanuel

Guests: Mindy Dickenson, Karen Engel, Cassie Sheik, and Bob Beh

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Emily Duong. Opening Prayer was read by all.

September Meeting Minutes.

Approval was deferred until amendments have been made. (*Have ready for November meeting*)

Board of Education.

Cassie Sheik presented a Proposed Children's Liturgy Policy that would include all parish children (St. Augustin School as well as St. Augustin Religious Education students). The Children's Liturgy mass would be the third Sunday of every month at the 10 a.m. mass. Refer to attached proposal for policy specifics. Board of Ed had rejected earlier proposal that initially only included St. Augustin School students. In the interest of unity and commitment to the parish, all children will be asked to participate.

Finance Council.

Rob Den Hartog and Joe Dullard: No report.

St. Augustin Foundation

Fr. Jim and Emily Duong: Joe Bisignano is the new chairperson. Northern Trust will be the new financial manager handling accounts and money transfers.

Pastoral Plan Reports

Specifically not discussed but overlapping issues can be found in individual board and committee reports.

Committee Reports

*Building & Grounds:* Emily Duong, Joe Kobes, Bob Beh, and Mindi Dickinson: Future elevator location needs to be advantageous to those who are in need of its use (too far away from sanctuary is not much help). And a time line for this project would be at a minimum 12 to 18 months till breaking ground. Bob Beh suggested that purchasing the 41<sup>st</sup> Street right of way that runs through St. Aug. parking lot instead of renting it from the city would be advantageous. Contact Plymouth to combine efforts in approaching the city with this proposal.

*Communications:* Rob Den Hartog, Joe Kobes, and Sherill Whisenand: Fr. Jim's homily, the pastors notes on the bulletin, and an announcement after each mass the weekend of Oct. 10-11 gave more details of the Pastoral Plan as per action item 4.1 of the Pastoral Plan and an apology to the parish for any misunderstandings. Announcement at the 10 a.m. mass was embellished a bit and did not sit well with some parishioners. However the amended announcement was met with applause after delivery because (Todd Erzen) offered an apology back to Father. *For future reference all announcements will be cleared through Fr. Jim and followed.*

*Liturgy:* Sherill Whisenand and Milt Anania: Server training has been handed to Mark Cernicky

*Parish Life:* Sandra Mosley: 28 Families have been invited to the newcomers gathering Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>. Help is needed to hand out parish directories following the October 18<sup>th</sup> masses.

*Education:* Todd Erzen: Meeting between Todd Erzen, Mindi Dickinson, and Dr. Gubbells (of the diocese) to discuss disagreement of executive session policy of the Board of Education came to a workable compromise. The compromise being to follow the diocesan guide lines for executive sessions found on page 14 which states: "Notice of the need for an executive session and the reason for it must be provided to the board members and administrators in advance. Unless the reason for the executive session is specifically to evaluate the performance appraisal of the administrator(s),

the administrator(s) must be included in all executive sessions.” In light of this disagreement, Rob Den Hartog has drafted a resolution for the council to review. (*Discussion will follow at November meeting.*) Father did comment that the Board of Ed. is one of the best run councils and that all of our councils should consider following Roberts Rules of order.

Old Business

Nothing discussed

New Business:

Because of flu concerns this season, shaking hands at the greeting and the sign of peace will be optional. Announcements to the parishioners will be made before each mass. Hand sanitizer should be made available near entrances.

Father informed the council that a study is being conducted to see if a Christo Rey Catholic High School would be advantageous to the Des Moines area. This alternative type of school targets a particular demographic in need of help and solicits local donors for a work study type of program.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m. Sandra Mosley moved and Joe Kobes seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. Closing Prayer to the Holy Spirit was read by all.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 10 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Todd Erzen, Emily Duong