

Parish Council Minutes, 26 Aug 2008

Members present: Brother Carlos, Jay Sclafani (youth ministry), Vince and Kim McDermott (retirees), Fr. Matt Pawlikowski (pastor), Cindy Ragsdale (DRE), Lorraine Wigger (EMHC), and Eileen Kowalski (parish council president).

Parish picnic final coordination

1. SPC Self will verify that the Hawaiian soldier will cook the pig. He will also gather paper towels, toilet paper, and cleaning supplies for us to use at Barth Hall, and he will get the sound system from the Post Chapel.
2. Jay will create flyers and signs with directions for people who come to the chapel for the 1100 Mass.
3. Marsha is coordinating transportation for cadets.
4. Cindy is checking to see how many nametags we have in the parish.
5. Bro. Carlos will see if the Knights of Columbus are available to do cleanup of Barth Hall Saturday night before the picnic.

Invited Speaker

1. Jay investigated inviting Jason Everett. He is already booked for the 08-09 school year. He has a waiting list for 09-10. His fee is \$1500.
2. Jason Everett suggested an alternate speaker, Christopher Stefanick. His fee is \$1200 with a two-talk minimum. Jay is asking him about possible dates for him to come to speak to us.
3. Brother Andrew in Newark is an additional possibility. He just started seminary full-time this year, so his availability may be limited.
4. Jay is looking into inviting Christopher West back again next year. Since Christopher's schedule fills up well in advance, we're trying to get on his calendar while there are still open days.

Religious education suggested donation

1. Current suggested donation is \$25/child, maximum of \$75/family. This has been constant for at least nine years.
2. Funds are used to provide MagnifiKid subscriptions (\$13/child), food at receptions, and refreshments for catechists. Curriculum materials are purchased with Appropriated Funds.
3. Fr. Matt and Cindy are considering increasing the suggested donation to \$60/child, maximum \$150/family if children are registered before 31 May or if families arrive at USMA after 31 May. After 31 May, the suggested donation increases to \$100/child, maximum \$225/family. Fees are waived if a parent is a catechist, and they can be reduced if families have financial circumstances that prohibit paying the full amount.
4. Possible disadvantage—decrease in enrollment if parents are unwilling to pay the fee. This could be mitigated by allowing families to spread their donations out over the year. Calculating the cost per class or comparing the religious education fees to fees for soccer or other sports may help put the increase into perspective.
5. Possible advantages
 - a. increased donation could increase peoples' level of commitment.
 - b. Financial incentive to register early allows Cindy to plan more effectively. Significant enrollment increases over the summer require her to find additional classrooms and teachers on short notice.

Financial update—Fr. Matt is planning to give a financial update to the parish in October.

Ministry trainings

1. Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion—22 or 29 Sep, 7:00-8:30 pm; Vince and Kim McDermott will be replacing Lorraine Wigger as coordinators of this ministry.
2. Lectors—8 AND 15 Sep, 7:00-8:30 pm
3. Altar servers—see dates in bulletin

CMRP—if you have any additional requests for funding, submit them to Mary Beth Hurley so that she can add them to our budget for the new fiscal year.

All Souls' celebration

1. Read names of the dead at the 1100 Mass on Sunday 2 Nov.
2. Brunch afterward—1:00-2:30 pm
 - a. Vince will call the Thayer Hotel to ask about prices and verify the time.
 - b. Eileen will call the club to ask about prices and scheduling.
3. \$10 deposit with RSVP so that we get an accurate headcount.

Fr. Matt's promotion

1. 1600 5 Sep 08 behind the chapel, followed by party at the 49er Lodge.
2. The Men of St Joseph and the Knights of Columbus have been asked to help with setup and cleanup.
3. MCCW ladies have been asked to provide side dishes.
4. Fr. Matt will provide roasted pig, drinks, and desserts.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Kowalski
Parish Council president