

Sacred Heart Church
Parish Council Minutes—June 15, 2009

1. The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Karen Latham at 6:08 pm.

Members in attendance were: Bob Horton, Fr. Tom, Howard Pohl, Karen Latham, Jim Farrar, Jim Francka, Steve Michael, Panfilo Garcia, Rose Leyva, Julia Valdes & Sue Frey.

Newly elected members present were: Eric Olson and Tom Kaufman

Members of the Finance Committee present not on Council: Marilyn Batson & Mary Terry.

2. Minutes of the May 11th meeting were reviewed and approved with the correction of the spelling of Rolanda Sandoval's name.
3. Certification of 2009-10 election results: Jim Francka made the motion to accept the election results that showed parishioners Rose Leyva, Eric Olson Jesus Ferrer & Tom Kaufman as elected members of Council. Julia Valdes 2nd the motion. All agreed.

Bob mentioned that the tally sheet from the election was given to Fr. Tom. The office needs to keep this sheet incase a member cannot complete their term. Our bylaws state that the person with the next highest number of votes will be asked to accept the position to complete their term.

The pastor will name 5 parishioners to the appointed positions on Council.

4. Adoption of 2009-10 Budget: Bob Horton presented the proposed budget prepared by the Finance Committee. Members of the Finance Committee were present to answer any questions.
 - The budget presented will balance with a onetime withdrawal of \$36,000.00 from our reserve funds.
 - Bob explained that giving at Sacred Heart was down by 22%. (Other parishes are experiencing this decline as well)
 - Steve Michael commented that the withdrawal of the Claretians and their grant money was greatly affecting our bottom line. Steve feels the parish did not have enough notice to prepare financially.
 - Bob pointed out that the diocese would, for one year only, excuse Sacred Heart from paying the pastor's rent. This will save the parish approximately \$7200.00 for this budget year.
 - The proposed budget also hopes The Hispanic Committee and the Fund (FUN) Raising Committee will each be able to contribute \$3,500.00 to the budget this year.
 - There was much discussion on how we all need to be better stewards of the church's money. The following suggestions were made:
 - a. All areas need budgets with line items
 - b. Parish Council needs to help make the parish aware of the need to turn off lights, buy "less expensively", donate items the church will use, watch the thermostat, use smaller rooms...in other words, "treat the church like it is our home and we are paying the bills"
 - c. We need to work at coming in 'under budget' in all areas...parish socials, office supplies, ministry totals. There are many areas that are out of our control.
 - d. We need to work at increasing funds... increase our donations, think of new fundraising opportunities, and work at suggesting the rental of The Hall, supporting current fundraising events.
 - The balance of the Building Fund is \$11,000.00—we are ahead of schedule in paying this debt down.
 - The question was asked if Why Catholic comes to an end this year...this answer will affect the budget for 2010-11
 - Tom Kaufman mentioned we need to "drive the point home" that we really have a budget in need of funds—how can each person help.

Sue Frey motioned that the budget be accepted with the following corrections made by Bob Horton: Both Hispanic & Fund (FUN) Raising Committee be asked to contribute \$3500.00. That the Adult Formation line item and RCIA line item be separated.
Jim Francka 2nd. All agreed.

5. Census 2010 Presentation: Lori Patton-Glasson. Lori explained to Council the importance of the 2010 census. The numbers gathered in the census will determine how much financial help and program help will be given to neighborhoods, counties, cities and states. The numbers will help show the need. No personal information will be share with other government agencies. People can fill the cards out without their names and turn them in. Lori asked if Sacred Heart would be a “Partnership Sponsor” for the census. Materials will be made available in both languages. Lori or someone else will be able to come and talk to committees and groups of people to explain the need for the census and answer any questions. There is the possibility we could receive some \$s to have materials imprinted with the census logo and Sacred Heart’s name to show we support the census...coffee mugs, pens etc. To become a partner member costs the parish no money. Rose mentioned that at the last census, meetings were held at Sacred Heart to explain in Spanish the need and the purpose of the census.
Sue Frey motioned Sacred Heart volunteer to be a Partner with the Census. Julia Valdes 2nd. All agreed
6. Committee Reports:
 - a. Worship Report: attached
 - b. Hispanic Report: attached. The Hispanic Committee will take care of hot dogs at the Concert in the Park in July. There is a need for more organization of ministers at the 6:00 Mass. Panfilo and Julia are working on this.
 - c. Evangelization Report: attached.
7. Old Business: Hall Rental. Report attached. Sacred Heart has the best prices in the city when compared to Catholic churches (except Holy Trinity does not charge parishioners). Short discussion on the need to coordinate calendars with the church office. The committee will look for a bilingual person to coordinate the rental of the hall. The committee will also write a job description for the coordinator. Jim Francka made a motion to accept the report. Karen Latham 2nd. All agreed
Table & Chair Storage. Jim Francka has hung the ladders; Jim Farrar has ordered the doors and will do the finish work on them; Sue Frey will coordinate the moving of the dishes and shelves.
8. Deacon Ed’s 25th Anniversary: Deacon Ed will celebrate his 25th anniversary as a deacon and his retirement on Sunday Sept 20th after the 9:30 Mass. All are invited. Sue will check with Heart to Heart about coordinating this event. There will be cake and punch. This reception is open to the entire parish and will be a way for us to thank Deacon Ed.
9. Pastor’s report: Fr. Tom reported to Council
 - that the East & West provinces of the Claretians will merge.
 - There will be 2 Claretians coming to Springfield; one an older brother to help with CCM and a bilingual priest to help in the diocese at different parishes.
 - Bats have returned. Jim Farrar has contacted Critter Control.
 - Sr. Laureana’s brother is not doing well.
 - Another person has expressed interest in the Hispanic Ministry position. Fr. Tom, Fr. Daniel and the search committee will continue to follow up[.
10. July meeting will be held July 13 at 6:00 pm. There are no committee reports scheduled at this time.
11. Motion to adjourn by Sue Frey. 2nd by Jim Francka. All agreed. Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Sue Frey