

Annual Parish Meeting

7:00 p.m. Tuesday September 29th, 2015

Approved

Parish/Finance Council Members Present: Father Pat, Ryan Mueller, Cecelia DeBruin, Judy Jelinek, Rita Steffen, Rose Biese, Karen Christel, Bill Pitz, Bernard Booth, Helen Gosse, Tom Fries, Allen Dietrich, Julie Galien and Jean Blattner.

Absent: Julie Hoban, Kris Lenzner, Debbie Griem, and Greg Zahn.

Guests: 16 Parish Members

Opening Prayer: Bernard Booth opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. and Father Pat led with a prayer.

Review of the 2014 Annual Minutes: The minutes were reviewed and corrections noted. A motion was made by CeCelia DeBruin and seconded by Father Pat to approve the minutes as read.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Karen Christel reported that although the Actual Revenue for 2014-15 came in below the budgeted amount, the Total Expenses were also below those anticipated, so the overall Parish Income for 2014-15 was \$29,927.58.

Building and Grounds: Bill Pitz noted that the overgrown shrubs in front of school have been removed, and other general maintenance has been performed. Luckily, there has not been a need for any major repairs to the school or church this past year. Two new freezers were purchased through the school and lunch program. In the future, Bill would like to see the front doors on the school replaced with new ones. CeCelia DeBruin expressed her concern over the safety of the Daycare students using the back door and asked that a gate be installed. Bill Pitz said he will discuss the possibility with Rita Steffen.

Religious Education: Father noted that parents signed the waivers and paid at registration this year. Eighty-five students will be attending RE this year, which is down from 92 students last year. There are only 2 First Communion students in RE this year. There are 14 Confirmation students this year, which is down one student from last year.

School and Day Care: The school enrollment for 2015-16 is at 29 students, with another 12 students in Pre-K, according to Rita Steffen. Ashley Rothmund is the new 5th/6th grade teacher. The Daycare is operating with a combination of 9 full-time and part-time employees with Karon Weninger as the team leader. Scrip sales for school families exceeded the required amount by \$25,000 with another \$49,000 purchased for school and daycare needs. Regional Catholic schools have formed the Southeast Regional Consortium, which will assist with Marketing and

Development for the school. The School Board continues to work hard initiating fundraising ideas to benefit the Treasure Chest Campaign, which raised \$11,000 last year.

Worship/Liturgy: CeCelia DeBruin announced that a Liturgy Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 8th at 2 p.m. in church. Father feels that with changes, the Liturgy will become more vibrant and alive.

Parish Report: Bishop Ricken challenged the school community to adopt St. Rita as their patron. A statue of St. Rita has been placed in church. Father noted that a new presiders chair has been purchased. Father asked the public if he should continue to give the announcements before mass, or would there be a better time during the mass. Mary Bonde commented that she felt the flow of the mass was disrupted with the announcements, and others agreed. Father will take this into consideration going forward. Father commented that with the recent changes made to the cemetery, it is now easier for Scott Elliott to maintain the grounds. Father also thanked all new members for joining the Parish and Finance councils.

Public Input: A concern was expressed in regards to the lack of music during the 10 a.m. mass, now that Jane Schaller has retired. Father noted that a college student will be playing periodically, based on her availability. Also, since there are excess funds in the budget, the parish may consider budgeting for an organist in the future.

Closing Remarks: Father asked the public to please approach him with any questions or concerns. Judy Jelinek read a letter from Julie Hoban and Kris Lenzner which asked parishioners to prayerfully consider joining the Parish council in the future, as both of their terms will be up in 2016. Bernard thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Father led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted by: Judy Jelinek