

Meeting Minutes
St. John Fisher Parish Council (PC)
February 17, 2008

1. Opening

- Following the opening prayer led by Cecelia Karr, Chairperson Lew Elbert reviewed the minutes from the last meeting and the agenda for the meeting.
- The minutes were accepted as presented and corrections noted on the liaison assignments listed on the agenda.

2. Focus Items for Discernment:

- Pastoral Care
 - Juli Kubicki presented information about the growth of the Companion Ministry and the many needs it serves.
 - She led a discussion on some of the implications and issues that this ministry is facing as it grows. It was pointed out that there are other ministries with similar needs and concerns, but it appears that this particular area will need more discernment.
 - Fr. Jerry added that this issue will be the primary focus of the Pontiac Vicariate in the coming year (with a preliminary report coming this month) and that the assignment of a Deacon to work exclusively on it should provide more information and guidance for future discussions here at SJF.
- Forward Planning
 - At the suggestion of Bishop Flores (January 6th meeting), the Council will proceed to create a “Five Year Vision” for the Parish over the next few months.
 - Next month we will be discussing the top priorities for the Parish in the coming year that can then be discussed at the “All Staff” meeting on April 8th.

3. Updates

- Lew Elbert presented a preliminary analysis of Parish contributions for 2007. We are currently running about 30K above budgeted revenue (vs. a target of roughly 25K). Allan Reynolds suggested we refine the analysis for further review at the next meeting.

- The Bishop Flores visit was reported very successful in the many areas he visited and the Council sent him a note of thanks. In conjunction with his review of Parish operations, a follow up “mini-audit of finances was performed with generally high marks and a few minor procedures to be reviewed further.
- The Parish incorporation has been delayed until the State can review papers further. No major problems are expected.
- Plans for rotation of Council members were reviewed and finalized.
 - The plan calls for the replacement of two women, two men, and the youth representative with applications due by April 4th.
 - ***Each member is being asked to bring the names of at least two potential candidates to the next meeting.***
- Parish Council activities: This past month we fulfilled our roles as “welcomers” for new members, the CYA retreat, as well as the Confirmation reception. ***The new Saturday/Sunday welcome schedule will be published in the coming week with the publication of the minutes.***
- Fr. Jerry reviewed the current plan (for improved lighting) from the building Committee which is proceeding on a schedule for completion in early June, assuming funds are available as projected.
- Liaison communications: We need to spend more time on this -- particularly on the subject of volunteering --next meeting leading up to the “All Staff” meeting.
- Fr. Jerry also presented the meeting summary of a newly forming Ministry which would focus on being a “catalyst” for communications, volunteerism, and networking within the SJF community. We plan to hear more about it next month.

5. Close

- The next Council Meeting will be on March 16th.
 - Lunch: Reynolds
 - Prayer: Kubicki
- Members Absent: Pauwels, Pittel, Smith, Dodd, McGlothlin, Brisbois (all excused). Paul Molnar will ensure that those absent receive the materials from the meeting.
- Meeting closed with a prayer by Cecelia Karr.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lew Elbert