

**Meeting Minutes**  
**St. John Fisher Parish Council**  
**April 18, 2010**

Members present:

Fr. Jerry

Evan Barlage

Laura Borroni-Bird

Jerry Bishop

Dawy Gonzalez-Ruiz

Scott Kehrer

Juli Kubicki

Ann Moran

Joe Pauwels

MaryAnn Weller

Dick Brennan

Also present: Sue Buratto, Sharon Cukras, August Thoma, John Smyntek, Tom Kilkenny, Lisa Brown, Megan Doyle, Teresa Gonda, Mary Mason, Michelle Pittel, Mary Meredith, Deborah Fristad, Terri Nelson-Drongowski, B.J. Schlachter, Dot Wolff, Janet Remington, Jerry Drongowski, Nancy Isken, Laura Kennedy, Laura Rangos, Nancy Mason Bordley, Mary VanGilder, Linda Romito, Donna Koehn, Paul Borucki

Council members, ministry leaders, and members of the pastoral team gathered in the Rochester Room for a snack and socializing.

**1. Opening**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, MaryAnn Weller. The opening prayer was led by Greg Schultz. Attendees introduced themselves and gave their ministry affiliation.

**2. Year of Renewal**

Joe Pauwels and John Smyntek spoke about the Year of Renewal. They reiterated the structure (six three week sections) the themes used, and the materials available for participation. Joe discussed results of the surveys and the overall findings.

Highlights of the ensuing discussion included:

- Concern was expressed about not getting much response from younger people. It appeared that other activities for young adults occur on Tuesday evening which may have prevented them from attending YOR sessions. It was also brought up that young people generally don't fill out surveys.
- The question was raised as to the willingness of the SJF community to 'go the next step'
- We must acknowledge problems of the institutional church and do 'active listening' to those who have concerns.
- Perhaps it is not realistic to expect many younger people to come to church as we are an aging population.
- The SJF community was felt to be very welcoming to young adults but a problem was noted with the Mass schedule and difficulties accommodating limited choices into busy schedules.

During the meeting, two short surveys were distributed for parish leadership feedback on the YOR. Joe then gave a brief summation of key points. Complete results will be made available at a later date.

Guests of the PC left at the conclusion of the discussion and the regular meeting began.

### **3. Updates**

A. Budget review: Paul Borucki provided a handout detailing the budget. He said that this year income is meeting expenses. The offertory is the primary source of income with development campaigns being secondary. Paul said that as the AOD assessment has increased this year from 6 to 7% (about \$4500) that cuts will need to be made. Program money and outreach expenses will be decreased to compensate for the increase. The result of such cuts will be that new programs will not be developed. Paul distributed the SJF Parish Financial Report to the PC members. The report showed a balanced budget for 2010-2011. Paul asked if the PC would support this budget. All members agreed in favor of supporting the budget

B. Archdiocese of Detroit (AOD) Regional Orientation: Ann Moran and Jerry Bishop attended the meeting on April 12, 2010 at St. Thomas Moore Parish in Troy. They attended to help prepare for upcoming interviews at each parish as part of the comprehensive Diocesan financial review. The meeting was intended to be a dialogue with parishes as the AOD attempts to raise money. Any PC members who have insights or opinions regarding this matter are asked to discuss them with Ann or Jerry who will be writing a letter to the AOD on behalf of SJF.

C. Council Recruitment Status: Maryann Weller reported that there are currently 5 male candidates (Tom Bejin, Ray Buratto, Howard Deal, Karl Schettenhelm, and Barry Thornton) and 5 female candidates (Megan Doyle, Hanna Gojca, Jan Mitchell, Denice Murphy, and Pat Lemcke). Evan Barlage recommended Kelsey Pittel as his replacement for Youth Group representative.

D. PAV: Joe Pauwels reported that there were no updates to PAV.

Scott Kehrer said the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.