

# **Assumption Parish Council Meeting Minutes**

## **October 11, 2005**

### **Attendance**

#### **Members Present**

Fr. Mike Pennock	Peter Collins	Roseanne Matteson
Ray Baskerville	Mike Ganser	Paul Middleton
Scott Brasch	Char Krause	Dan Pellack
Terry Bouvier	George Kaluzny	

#### **Members Absent**

Ken Bonomo (excused)	Nancy Endrst (excused)
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#### **Guests Present**

Kenna Baskerville	Armand Bianchi	Marge Wills
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### **Call to Order**

At 7:03 PM, George Kaluzny called the meeting to order.

### **Opening Prayer**

Paul Middleton led those present in the "Hail Mary."

### **Nominations**

George Kaluzny informed the members of the need to choose a Parish Council President and Vice-President. Char Krause made a motion nominating George Kaluzny for president. Dan Pellack seconded the nomination. George Kaluzny accepted the nomination. The motion carried unanimously. Paul Middleton made a motion nominating Dan Pellack for vice-president. Ray Baskerville seconded the nomination. Dan Pellack accepted the nomination. This motion also carried unanimously. Officers elected for 2005-2006 are President George Kaluzny and Vice-President Dan Pellack.

### **Installation of Four New Council Members**

Invoking the Holy Spirit to bind together the Holy Church of God, to make the new council members witnesses to Jesus Christ, to aid the council with their concern for the welfare of our parish, and to assist all gathered at the meeting, Fr. Mike Pennock led prayers to install Ray Baskerville, Peter Collins, Mike Ganser, and Dan Pellack as Parish Council members. He blessed the new members with holy water, and all present at the meeting prayed the "Our Father" together.

## **Membership List**

President George Kaluzny gave each member a list of contact information and requested that everyone check the listing for accuracy and make corrections.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Peter Collins moved to accept the minutes of the September 6, 2005, Parish Council meeting and Ray Baskerville seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **Commission Reports**

### **Education Commission:**

Paul Middleton shared the following information in his report.

- ◆ There are 270 students from 181 families enrolled in the religious education program this year. Forty-eight students are preparing to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion. Twenty-eight eighth grade and three high school students are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Catechists for this year are Carrie Carpenter, Sue Crawford, Ruth Dillon, Cindi Grove, George Kaluzny, Julie Keigher, Budd Landers, Roseanne Matteson, Paul Middleton, Teri Middleton, Gloria Natyshok, Mary Pellack, Jacquie Schimandle, and Karen Turner.
- ◆ Upcoming events include a catechist planning meeting at 5:30 PM in the Madonna Room on Thursday, October 13, 2005; the eighth grade Day of Reflection featuring the N.E.T. visiting retreat team on Sunday, October 16, 2005; and no religious education classes on Sunday, October 30, 2005.
- ◆ This year's Christmas program will be the musical *Santa Bowed at Christmas*; props are being made by the Coal City High School Drama Club. Christmas program director is Honor Trotter. Weekly practice takes place on Sundays in the Berst Center following the religious education classes.
- ◆ The Christmas Youth Choir is under the direction of Shirley Boero, Cindi Grove, and Marla O'Keefe.
- ◆ In addition to the Protecting God's Children program which is required for all catechists and volunteers now working with our children, the Joliet Diocese requires a short 30-45 minute segment of class time from each grade annually for a program called "Talking about Touching" which addresses the issues of inappropriate touching from adults and the child's right to say no. Fr. Mike shared his concern about protecting the innocence of children while incorporating this mandated program. Fr. Mike and Religious Education Director Judith Kaluzny will be looking through the program on October 21, 2005. Parents will be required to sign a permission slip for their child's participation. Char Krause will present the information. Peter Collins suggested a date be arranged for parents to view the video that will be shown. November 30, 2005, is the compliance date for parishes to respond to the Diocese showing the total number of parents notified of the program, the number of parents and students who attended the presentation, and the number of parents that excused their students from this curriculum addition.

- ◆ The Teens 4 Christ Youth Ministry, assisted by the Marthas, held their Octoberfest luncheon, earning a profit of \$1185.27 which will be used for this year's teens' activities. Their gatherings in October, focusing on the Most Holy Rosary, are Sunday, October 2, 2005, and Sunday, October 23, 2005, from 6:00-8:00 PM in the Berst Center. Teens will help serve the eighth graders and parents after their Day of Reflection. On October 23, 2005, the teens will be carving pumpkins and finishing their saints costumes so that during the Religious Education Autumn Party on October 25 and 26, 2005, they can serve treats to the younger students, have a drawing for the pumpkins, and hold a contest for children to guess which saints are represented by the teens' costumes.

### **Christian Service Commission:**

Char Krause shared information on the varied service organizations in our parish

- ◆ On Sunday, October 2, 2005, the CCW collected "Necessities for the Needy" including socks, underwear, and pajamas, to support the work of Catholic Charities in our Diocese. They also held a Linen Basket Raffle at Octoberfest.
- ◆ The Elizabeth Ministry met on September 12, 2005, to make up more gift bags to share with new mothers along with their home-cooked meals. During the past month three meals were delivered to families with newborns. Special intentions continue to be remembered in prayer through their Rosebud program.
- ◆ The Marthas assisted the Teens 4 Christ with the annual Octoberfest luncheon.
- ◆ October is Respect Life month. In 1941, Cardinal Clemens von Galen of Munster, Germany, stated "Once admit the right to kill unproductive persons . . . then none of us can be sure of his life." Cardinal von Galen, also called the "Lion of Munster" during his lifetime is, as of October 9, 2005, also known as Blessed Clemens von Galen following his beatification at St. Peter's in Rome. Blessed Clemens von Galen, pray for us as we attack the Culture of Death without fear of lawsuits or complaints. This month is the time to pray for the renewed sacredness of the life of every human being from conception to natural death. As Pope Benedict XVI said in his homily at his Inaugural Mass on April 24, 2005: "We are not some casual and meaningless product of evolution. Each of us is the result of a thought of God. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, each of us is necessary." Our parish continues to work with pro-life concerns, recently participating in the Life Chain in Braidwood on October 2, 2005; conducting weekly holy hours on Thursday morning in the Eucharistic Chapel; and traveling monthly to Access Health Center with the next scheduled trip on Saturday, October 29, 2005. Coincidentally, October is also National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the Susan G. Komen Foundation, which collects money for cancer research, also gives hundreds of thousands of dollars to Planned Parenthood, America's number one abortion provider, and continues to hide the link between abortion and breast cancer. Another news item is that the Netherlands is set to give permission for child euthanasia. On Saturday, November 5, 2005, at 2:00 PM in the Madonna Room, our parish is providing an opportunity to learn more about Natural Family Planning.
- ◆ St. Vincent's Table continues to serve around 40 people on Mondays. They are in need of clean-up help. The society is at the end of its fiscal year, having helped those in need in our community using \$32,000.00.

- ◆ The Coal City Food Pantry is low on food. Donations can be made in the back of our church at any time.

### **Worship Commission:**

Fr. Mike spoke of his desire to hold Christmas Masses in the church this year. He will ask the Bishop for permission to have Masses at 2:00 PM, 4:00 PM, and 6:00 PM on Christmas Eve and at Midnight as well as at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11:00 AM on Christmas Day. Permission is needed because Masses on a Vigil are not usually begun before 4:00 PM.

### **Administration Commission**

At the beginning of the report, President George Kaluzny stressed that any items needing to be approved by the Parish Council can only be distributed to Council members prior to the approval. After approved, copies can be shared with guests and parishioners.

- ◆ Following this reminder, Roseanne Matteson discussed the August financial report, sharing that there was nothing out of the ordinary. Paul Middleton moved to accept the August financial information. Scott Brasch seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- ◆ The annual financial report for 2004-2005 was distributed to parishioners in the September 17/18, 2005, bulletin. The Administration Commission is still in the process of composing a letter regarding stewardship.
- ◆ The parish is in need of assistance from someone regarding the temperature controls for the hall; the thermostats need replacing. Mike Ganser volunteered to contact someone about the necessary materials; Scott Brasch offered his son's expertise in installing them.
- ◆ The photocopier for Religious Education has exceeded its maximum life potential; the copier needs to be replaced but is not included in the annual budget. George Kaluzny will gather information about the number of copies produced and asked anyone who knows about copiers to get in touch with him. Scott Brasch will speak with someone at work to gather information.
- ◆ The Knights of Columbus borrowed a portable bar from our parish and are interested in purchasing it. The Administration Commission wanted to know if this would be acceptable to the Parish Council. Following a brief discussion, Dan Pellack moved to donate the small one tap bar to the Knights of Columbus Council #1574 in response to all they have done in the past and are continuing to do for our parish. Mike Ganser seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- ◆ Armand Bianchi updated the Parish Council on the concerns of the Building Committee. To ensure we are able to keep the money when our trust is up in 2011, he suggested we submit a building plan to the Diocese for approval. As it has been some time since he spoke with the architect previously involved, he will follow up with a contact about the cost of beginning the preliminary steps in this process. The cost for plans can come from the Building Fund. Armand Bianchi is willing to chair the committee who will work on this project; committee members are needed.

## **Old Business**

George Kaluzny led a discussion on the following topics:

- ◆ A Hall Committee needs to be formed to oversee the Berst Center. Fr. Mike will serve on this committee and will look for volunteers in the parish. Council members Mike Ganser and George Kaluzny are willing to be committee members.
- ◆ An item will be included in an upcoming bulletin searching for parishioners with specific trade talents. We are in need of more volunteers.
- ◆ The boys' restroom doors still need to be installed. Dan Pellack inquired about the availability of anyone who knows how to drill through marble. Paul Middleton asked if a wood header could be used.
- ◆ The contractor has said that our new wood church doors could be installed soon.

## **New Business**

George Kaluzny led a discussion on the following topics:

- ◆ We are in need of a Welcoming Committee who will contact those new to the parish. A folder of literature such as the history of the parish, parish council information, and parish organizational information and programs should be sent or, better still, delivered to the homes of new parishioners. Char Krause will chair this committee and will be asking for one person from every parish group to assist.
- ◆ Our parish will be growing as our community enlarges.
- ◆ Fr. Mike asked for a proposal concerning renting the hall at the discounted parishioner rate. Scott Brasch moved that "In order for a person to qualify for the reduced rate parish facilities rental, the person must be an active, contributing member of the parish for at least six months." Mike Ganser seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **New Policy**

As unanimously voted at the October 11, 2005, Parish Council meeting:

**In order for a person to qualify for the reduced rate parish facilities rental, the person must be an active, contributing member of the parish for at least six months.**

## **President's Remarks**

George Kaluzny spoke of these parish needs:

- ◆ Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Communion are appointed to serve for a three-year period. Parishioners need to be invited to participate and to be trained at least annually so that there are sufficient people involved in this privilege. George Kaluzny and Fr. Mike will continue to work together to ensure we have enough people involved.

- ◆ More ushers and greeters are needed in the parish. This will be discussed next month; a committee and someone to chair this committee are needed.
- ◆ New and current altar servers need to be trained to show proper reverence. Ken Bonomo will chair a committee to provide better training for these young people; George Kaluzny is willing to work with him.

### **Parish Council Meeting Dates**

Scheduled Parish Council meeting dates for the remainder of 2005/2006 are as follows:

November 8, 2005 [2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday (November 1, 2005, is All Saints Day)]  
 December 6, 2005 [1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday]  
 January 10, 2006 [2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday (January 2, 2006 is New Years Holiday)]  
 February 7, 2006 [1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday]  
 March 7, 2006 [1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday]  
 April 4, 2006 [1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday]  
 May 2, 2006 [1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday]  
 June 6, 2006 [1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday]

*no scheduled meetings for July and August 2006*

September 12, 2006 [2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday (September 4, 2006 is Labor Day)]

### **Closing Prayer**

Paul Middleton led those present in the “Hail, Holy Queen.”

### **Adjournment**

George Kaluzny reminded members that the next Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday, November 8, 2005. Terry Bouvier volunteered to lead the Opening and Closing prayers in November. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Therese Bouvier, secretary