

PASTORAL COUNCIL OF NATIVITY – ST. CHARLES
OCTOBER 5, 2006

Present: Fr. Driscoll, Maria Kirkpatrick, Pat Robinson, Sharon Fairfax, Jeanne Bourque, Edna Walsh, Palm Cormier, Tony Morley, Frank Allen, Jim Nelson, Gerry Cormier,

Regrets: Jim MacDonald, John Kellegrew, Pauline Pettigrew, Howard Gotell, Geoff deGannes, Lillian Bray, Darlene White, Sister Teresa Currie, Sharon Murphy

The meeting was held at Nativity Church Hall at 7:00 pm on October 5th, 2006.

Opening prayer

Minutes from meeting September 21 were approved with an amendment regarding Pastor's Report not attached but circulated. (Sharon, Palm).

NEW BUSINESS

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Father has received a video developed from the Diocesan Pastoral Parish Council workshop held at St. Thomas in Dartmouth in the spring, Part 1 of "Parish Pastoral Council". Pastoral council will view the series after the new council has been installed.
- Posters for the Stewardship campaign have been hung in the church and hall.
- Religious education has been having a problem recruiting leaders for grades 4, 5 and 6, Father feels that church is a low priority in some parishioner's lives.
- CWL will hold a vote of their memberships in November to decide if they will combine the charters. The district CWL president will attend.
- "Holy Family Parish" was the most popular name for the new parish; the diocese will make the final decision on the change.
- Archbishop Prendergast will attend the official closing of Nativity in November.
- The Nativity bazaar was a success with a very well attended supper.

OTHER

Tony reported that he had met with Geoff to go through the list of Parish Council members and created a list of retirees for 2006 which included Tony, Geoff, Pat, Frank, Jim and Terry. The remaining members are to serve 2 years with the replacement members serving for 3 year terms. Suggested new members included Jerry Hallee and Dave Lefurgey, requests for additional new members will be published in the bulletin. Tony and Geoff will be available to assist to the council if required.

Father met with Bert McWade regarding fundraising efforts for the new church.

The new owners at Furlong's Funeral Home have no problems with the current parking arrangements.

There will be a Stewardship workshop held on Saturday, October 21, 2006 at Nativity.

Father will advise the diocese of our plans regarding Forward in Faith.

CWL REPORT

The St. Charles's yard and bake sale raised over \$500. The Nativity CWL may be holding a pot luck supper at the church.

PARISH COUNCIL

Tony and Father announced that Peter Vriend has agreed to head up the building committee for the new parish facility.

Peter then presented a discussion paper to the council regarding his suggestion for a new format of parish council. He suggested a two division format where one division would concentrate on the management of the spiritual life and the other division on the management of the worldly aspects of the parish. Each division would have 6 members and 2 ex officio; the ex officio members would be the same for both divisions and act as go betweens. The division of work should result in fewer meetings, more progress and faster decision making. He feels it is necessary for council to react quickly to conclusions reached by the building committee and that council has to be current on finances, buildings and parish events.

He suggests the building committee be comprised of 5 or 6 members who can carry out tasks on their own. An insert in the bulletin is first attempt to attract capable persons to serve our parish on council and the building committee.

He suggests that council needs to choose effective means of communication with the parish, preferably at least twice a month. This will ensure that interest stays and prevents false rumors.

He included an insert for the bulletin with his discussion paper; the insert explains the suggested divisions for councils, outlines the deadlines for the building committee and invites parishioners to serve on the divisions of parish council or the committees.

Discussion followed:

Frank appreciated the detail in Peter's request for new recruits and feels it may attract more parishioners to the work.

Jim thinks it is important to minimize the number of committees and the need to get information to parishioners on a timely basis.

Edna suggested that making council smaller would free up people for other committees.

Gerry feels we have trouble identifying our function as a council and we need to define what our exact functions should be.

Frank suggested we remain with the "description" of council which is to "address how we stay as community".

Motion: "We form a management committee chaired by Peter Vriend with the mandate to oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Forward in Faith II

committee. Function of the committee will be further defined at a later date.” (Sharon, Edna)

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting will be held on November 2nd, at Nativity Hall.

Respectfully submitted;

Pat Robinson