

These meeting minutes were reviewed, modified, and formally approved
by the Parish Council on December 16, 2003.

MINUTES
of the
SAINT CECILIA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, November 18, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sue Belcher, Alan Christy, Ed Fawkes, Chuck Gilarski, Bill Haas, Bud Montang, Father Terry, Anne Schmitt, Clint Steele, Monte Streit, Tom Thielen and LouAnn Vulgamott.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Randy Dalhoff, Bob Hauser, Joe Lawlor, and Arlene Stacy.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Clint Steele called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. PRAYER: Chuck Gilarski led the group in prayer, using the Prayer Services for Parish Councils booklet.

3. SECRETARY'S REPORT: MOTION by Chuck Gilarski, seconded by Tom Thielen that the Minutes of the October meeting be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

4. STAFF REPORTS:

YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT: Joe Lawlor reviewed his written report, which was included in the Parish Council packets. In addition, Joe reported that he has changed attendance requirements to 80% and absences in the Youth Ministry programs have almost reached their maximums due mainly to sports banquets. Every sport has its own banquet and every banquet seems to be on Sunday evening.

- **Chuck Gilarski** said he has had to arrange sports banquets in the past and Sunday evening is the only evening available for most banquet halls in the area.
- **Joe** asked why a banquet hall was necessary? It's a school event, why can't it be held in the schools? Joe also noted a letter from the Gilbert School District asking when our religious programs would be held so they could schedule around us.
- The question was asked about other churches and whether they were having the same problem. Joe said many other churches use Wednesday night for their religious education programs.
- **Joe** said he would approach the Ames schools sports directors with this problem. He also noted that he is looking for more volunteers to minister to the Story County jail. Men and women's groups must be ministered to separately.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Arlene Stacy provided a written report in the Parish Council packet. There was discussion of the proposed Project Budget policy that applies to all activities with a cost expected to be \$2,000. or more. MOTION by Bill Haas, supported by Anne Schmitt, to accept the proposed policy as written. MOTION CARRIED. In other matters:

- **Tom Thielen** questioned the mass count sheet figures included in the packet. The numbers are falling. **Bill Haas** said that many of the parishioners he has had contact with had varying concerns and he suggested the Parish Council begin formulating a dialogue with the Archdiocese to see about overcoming the problem of priest shortages.
- **Tom Thielen** also suggested that several of the parishioners he has had contact with don't feel as though building a new church is the answer to the priest shortage.

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FAMILY LIFE COORDINATOR: Dawn Aitchison was not present at the meeting but provided a written report in the Parish Council packet.

COMMUNITY LIFE COORDINATOR: Sally Elbert was not present at the meeting.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH & LITURGY: Bob Hauser handed out the minutes of the Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee and discussed the following items:

- New practices from the General Instruction of the Roman Missal such as:
 - Whether to have silence rather than hand shaking and greeting before Mass,
 - No announcements from the Ambo, the ambo being reserved for scripture readings, homily, and prayers of the faithful. Will likely move most announcements to the Bulletin.
- Discussion of what to do in the absence of a priest at Mass (*These guidelines will be put into next month's Parish Council packets*).
- A special Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe, Friday, December 12th, with parts of the Mass being celebrated in Spanish.
- A subcommittee of the SG&L met 28 October to begin planning for Advent-Christmas.
- Members of the SG&L Committee and the Social Concerns Committee worked hard on activities related to St Cecilia's hosting of the 2003 Good Neighbor Benefit Concert. The concert was in the church on 2 November. Ten choirs performed separately and as a combined choir.
- Remembrance service was conducted on 13 November.

5. OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business

6. NEW BUSINESS: No New Business

BREAK for refreshments provided by **Chuck Gilarski**.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance & Administration Committee: Clint Steele reported that 2.6 million dollars has been pledged toward the building of a new church and that was sign that the new church is a go! **Randy Dalhoff** cautioned that not all the monies pledged will be given; a 15% loss is typical. Still, the feeling was one of optimism about the construction going ahead.

Randy said a Financial Plan for the Building Committee would be prepared for the Archdiocese.

Good Shepherd Parish: LouAnn Vulgamott handed out notes and reviewed them. She said \$1278.00 was raised in the Election Night Chili Supper but that the expenses from that had yet to be paid. LouAnn also noted that Good Shepherd would benefit from the Rusty Draper Trust in an amount approximating \$40,000.00

Deanery No written report. **Bud Montang** reported the next deanery meeting will be at Saint Mary's in Marshalltown, on December 1 and asked for e-mails concerning issues the Parish Council wishes to bring before the Deanery.

Facilities Committee: Ed Fawkes reported he will be purchasing a clock for the Social Hall to replace the one that was stolen.

Long-Range Building Committee: No Meeting

Social Concerns Committee: Chuck Gilarski reported:

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- Good Neighbor concert, held here, raised \$4684.00 for the cooperative.
- Giving Tree will be going up this weekend.

Sanctity of Life Committee: Anne Schmitt reported the dedication of the new statue, the Campus life chain, the Guadalupe Feast Day and the possibility of having Dr. Paul Matthews as a speaker.

Board of Education: Monte Streit distributed a written report and discussed it. Highlights were:

- The possible discontinuance of 6th grade if Ames moves 6th grades to Middle School.
- Kindergarten is being considered for full day sessions
- Possible Pre-School classes if the 6th grade moves out. 3 year olds Tuesday & Thursday, 4 year olds Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays?

Family Life Committee

Tom Thielen reported:

- 225 attended Halloween Party
- Young Married Wine & Cheese Party, 1 couple attended.
- Family Advent Wreath making - class full.
- Holy Family Sunday, December 26, 27.
- Book Sale - December 6 & 7.
- Stand Against Violence - January 17 & 18
- Next Meeting January 6th.

8. OBSERVATIONS/EVALUATIONS/FEEDBACK:

9. PASTORAL COMMENTS:

10. ADJOURNMENT: -- The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Westphal, Recording Secretary

Next meeting: In the Social Hall at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday December 16, 2003