

These meeting minutes were approved  
at the April 18 meeting

**SAINT CECILIA PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING  
Tuesday March 21, 2006**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Karen Popelka, Ed Fawkes, Chuck Gilarski, Bill Haas, Pat Halbur, Jonathan Weber, Jean Kresse, Father Terry, Terry Herrman, Alan Christy and Bud Montang

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** LuAnn Vulgamott.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Business Manager Jerry Greving, Finance Committee Chairman Randy Dalhoff, Music and Liturgy Director Bob Hauser, Director of Youth Ministry Joe Lawlor, Ann Clem, School Principal Duane Siepker, Todd Clancy of the Board of Education, Teacher Laurie Van Fleet and Recording Secretary Jim Westphal.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Ed Fawkes called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.
2. **PRAYER:** Ed Fawkes led the group in prayer.
3. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Jerry Greving said that the Archdiocesan TAXA bill should read \$27,000 and not \$227,000 as published in last month's Minutes under the Financial Report. **Chuck Gilarski** suggested we add the word "tentatively" before the word, "agreed" in the Long Range Building entry. **Bill Haas** asked that we change the word "continued" to the word "led" in the Parish Council Self Assessment section. **Motion** by **Bill Haas**, supported by **Chuck Gilarski**, to accept the minutes from the February meeting as amended.  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

4. **STAFF REPORTS:**

**Youth Ministry Report - Joe Lawlor and Karen Popelka** reviewed the notes from their meeting ([See addendum #1](#)). **Father Terry** reported on his meeting with Operation Andrew, a seminar to help sponsor vocations. He said there were between 16 and 17 young men in attendance who were interested in finding out more about the priesthood. A 15-minute DVD on the subject is available from the Parish Office.

Joe also restated the fact that there will be a High School program next year to continue where the Middle School program leaves off.

**Financial Report - Jerry Greving** reviewed the items in his report ([See addendum #2](#)).

There was a discussion regarding whether or not the Boiler Insurance from the Archdiocese would cover the purchase of a new boiler for the school. Jerry will look into the matter.

**Board of Education - Ann Clem, Duane Siepker, Todd Clancy and Laurie Van Fleet** addressed the Council regarding a growing problem and a proposal. The problem is the Day School is becoming overcrowded. While classes should be held to a maximum of 21 students, many are now standing at 30 and 31 with 32 in the third grade classroom. In addition, many potential students are being turned away and it won't be long before we have to turn away siblings of children already attending our school.

The group proposed the following:

- Using the Art Room and the Music Room as classrooms as these rooms are only used one day a week in most cases.
- Art and Music could be taught in the Adult/Youth Rooms or from mobile carts moving from classroom to classroom.
- Using the Rectory for Pre-School classes, releasing one more classroom.

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- Dividing classrooms into two smaller classes through the use of built in partition walls. This would necessitate the hiring of more teachers.
- Within the next 3 to 5 years consider an addition to the school. This would necessitate another capital building campaign.

The last suggestion triggered a lengthy discussion as to whether another capital building campaign should be considered when we are in the midst of rebuilding the church at the present time.

Ann pointed out that if the reason we are building a new church is because of a growing Catholic population, then it only stands to reason that the population of the school will continue to grow as well.

**Duane Siepk** said the Board is simply asking the Parish Council to bless the short-term expansion of classes K through 4 into two sections for the next fiscal school year.

**Father Terry** said he thought this was a wonderful problem to have and we need to give the go ahead to expand. He said the faculty is willing to work through any inconveniences and we should support everything but the new construction proposal at this time.

**Bob Hauser** pointed out that any future additions to the Education Center would have to take into consideration the city code of maintaining our "green space". This means that only a small area of current church property could be used for extended buildings.

**MOTION** by **Bud Montang** supported by **Jon Weber** that we table this discussion and hold a special meeting sometime next week with a prepared Agenda to discuss this matter more fully. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ed Fawkes** set next Tuesday evening, March 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the Adult/Youth Room as the time for that meeting.

**Spiritual Growth & Liturgy - Bob Hauser** reviewed the points made in the Minutes of the Committee in the packet, ([See addendum #3](#) and [addendum #4](#).) He also reminded us of the Sound-Trak concert coming up this Saturday evening and said the Committee should be ready to report to the Council on its assessment progress at the May meeting.

**Parish Community Life - Jean Kresse** reviewed the notes she handed out at the meeting. ([See addendum #5](#)).

### **5. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. **Ed Fawkes** reminded the Council that the April meeting would take place at Good Shepherd in Jewell. We will meet in the North Parking Lot at 6:30 pm and car pool.
- B. **Parish Self-Assessment - Bill Haas** agreed to do the assessment after Committee Reports.

### **6. NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **Bill Haas** proposed forming a Stewardship Committee to first educate the Council and then the parishioners about Stewardship ([See addendum #9](#)). He suggested "doing our homework" by reading the references posted on the web from the Archdiocese regarding this effort.

**MOTION** by **Bill Haas** supported by **Jean Kresse** to establish a Stewardship Committee to educate the Council as to the meaning of Stewardship. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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**Ed Fawkes** asked all Council members to review the information on the web page and we will establish who will serve on this Committee at next month's meeting.

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Social Concerns Committee** - **Chuck Gilarski** reviewed the points in the minutes included in the packet ([See addendum #6](#)). He also emphasized the flyer regarding AMOS, A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy, and encouraged our attendance at the informational meeting Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Adult/Youth Room.

**Sanctity of Life** - **Jon Weber** said he received no minutes from the Committee this month but they did review the March for Life in Washington, which some members attended.

**Family Life Committee** - **Terry Herrman** reported on the notes included in the packet ([See addendum #7](#)). He noted that they are starting to plan the Seder Supper.

**Finance and Administration** - **Bud Montang** said he couldn't attend the meeting. **Randy Dalhoff** reported that the discussion was mostly centered on the Board of Education proposal and that the notes were in the packet ([See addendum #8](#)).

**Elections** - **Ed Fawkes** noted that the dates of the proposed nominations would fall on Palm Sunday. He suggested we use the dates of April 1 and 2 instead. Elections will still be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of May.

**Good Shepherd Parish** - No Report.

**Deanery** - **Bud Montang** reported the Deanery meeting was short as many members were absent. Mostly they reviewed the aforementioned DVD on vocations.

**Facilities** - **Ed Fawkes** said he has had a request that the globes in the parking Lot lamps be cleaned. **Al Christy** said that there is money in the building plan for the electricians to do that but they are waiting for milder weather.

**Long Range Building Committee** - **Ed Fawkes** reported that the Social Hall and parking lot would be ready for use after Memorial Day.

Ed also reported that the Interiors Committee met tonight and finalized the color scheme for the Social Hall and Narthex. He also said that the mural representing Saint Cecilia would be hung rather than painted directly on a wall. This is the artist's request as well.

**Return to OLD BUSINESS:**

**Parish Council Assessment** - Because of the length of tonight's meeting, it was decided to postpone work on the Parish Council Assessment until next month's meeting.

**8. OBSERVATIONS/EVALUATION/FEEDBACK**

**9. PASTORAL COMMENTS** -

**10. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

**NOTE:** *A special meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, 2006, in the Adult/Youth Room. The next regular meeting will be 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 18th at Good Shepherd in Jewell.*

Respectfully submitted, Jim **Westphal**, Recording Secretary