

These meeting minutes were amended and approved
at the 29 July meeting.

**Saint Cecilia Parish Council
Regular Meeting in the Social Hall
Tuesday, 24 June 2008**

Members Present: Adriana (Rindi) Bernhard, Mark Bortle, Todd Clancy, Chuck Gilarski, Janine Greenwood, Bill Haas, Pat Halbur, Mark Imerman, John Nelson, Father Ivan Nienhaus, Gary Novey, Karen Popelka, John Sankovitch, and LouAnn Vulgamott.

Others Present: Business Manager Jerry Greving, Music and Liturgy Director Bob Hauser, and John Feyerer.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Chuck Gilarski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Prayer:** Chairman Gilarski led the council in prayer from the booklet, *Prayer Services for Parish Councils*.
3. **Election of Officers:** Chairman Gilarski reviewed the duties of officers as detailed in the By-Laws and declared nominations open for Chairperson. John Nelson nominated Mark Bortle; seconded by Mark Imerman. Pat Halbur moved that nominations for chairperson be closed. Mark Bortle was elected Chair.
Gilarski opened nominations for Vice-Chair. LouAnn Vulgamott nominated Pat Halbur for Vice-Chair; seconded by Mark Imerman. Todd Clancy moved that nominations for Vice-Chair be closed; seconded by John Nelson. Pat Halbur was elected Vice-Chair.
Gilarski opened nominations for Secretary. Mark Bortle nominated Bill Haas; seconded by Pat Halbur. Mark Bortle moved that nominations for Secretary be closed; seconded by John Nelson. Bill Haas was elected Secretary.
At the conclusion of the election of officers, Chuck Gilarski relinquished the chair to Mark Bortle, the new Chairperson.
4. **Review/Amendment/Approval of Minutes:** Todd Clancy moved that the minutes be approved as amended; seconded by Janine Greenwood. Motion passed.
5. **Adoption of Agenda:** Chuck Gilarski asked that Update of Constitution and By-Laws be added to the agenda. Chairman Bortle suggested adding it at item 7F. John Nelson moved adoption of the agenda, as so modified; Gary Novey seconded. Motion passed.
6. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Members' Observations Regarding Leadership/Visioning Training Sessions:** Mark Bortle, Bill Haas, and John Nelson attended the Leadership training session; all opined that it was time well spent. John Nelson, John Sankovitch, Janine Greenwood, and Chuck Gilarski attended the Visioning session; again all considered the time well spent. Janine recommended continuing with Ed Rupert, since he had done a excellent job. According to John Feyerer, attendance was 25 to 28 persons (PC, BOE, Commission and staff members) at each session. In the succeeding discussion, there appeared to be consensus on the following:
 - Visioning (aka strategic planning) should be put on the Parish Council Agenda.
 - Visioning sessions should probably employ an outside facilitator to avoid bias.
 - Keep it simple. Don't attempt to do everything desirable on the first pass.Bill Haas agreed to send the Visioning session presentation to all Council members.
 - B. **Gala Update:** Chuck Gilarski reported on developments following last month's Parish Council action regarding the Gala:

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- He immediately informed the Gala group contact person, Jody Bennett, regarding the Council's action and asked her to confirm within 7 days that three co-chair couples had been selected who were willing and able to lead the 2009 Gala Steering Committee.
- Seven days later, he and Bill Haas met with Jody and Darryl Bennett. At that meeting, the Bennetts provided an information packet that identified the proposed Gala co-chair couples as Jody and Darryl Bennett, Kelly and Ty Stewart, and Monica (Gillen) and Peter Goche. The packet also identified many others who want to be involved in Gala activities, the proposed Gala organizational structure, proposed Gala activities, and detailed calendar information.
- Since then, David Goodman has been hired to serve as auctioneer for the second year in a row, the 2009 Gala has been scheduled for February 7, and the Gala team has conducted a Gala Volunteer Celebration & 2009 Launch Party at Prairie Moon Winery, with food catered by Smokin' Caboose. The party celebrated the success of the 2008 Gala and unveiled initial plans for the 2009 Gala.

In the succeeding discussion, the following additional points were noted:

- Chuck Gilarski and John Nelson volunteered to serve as Parish Council representative to the Gala Steering Committee.
- Frank Oppold is serving as the Community Development and Communications Commission representative.
- Bill Haas will send the Gala information packet to Council members.

7. New Business:

A. Members' 2008-2009 Commitments to Commissions/Committees: Members expressed their preferences as follows:

Mark Bortle	Elections, Development & Communications Commission
Adriana Bernhard	Vocations
Janine Greenwood	Sanctity of Life
Bill Haas	Spiritual Growth & Liturgy, Worship Commission
Pat Halbur	Deanery
Mark Imerman	Community and Family Life Commission
John Nelson	Finance
Gary Novey	Facilities
John Sankovitch	Social Concerns, Local & Global Outreach Commission

- B. Leadership in Development/Communications Commission:** Bill Haas asked if the Council wished to fill the leadership vacancy in the Development/Communications Commission. There appeared to be consensus to proceed in that direction, with members agreeing that a good job description will be required and that the ability to collaborate with others will be essential. John Nelson moved that the Council establish a subcommittee to look into developing a job description and hiring a development/communication specialist; seconded by Janine Greenwood. Motion passed unanimously. Pat Halbur, Bill Haas, Chuck Gilarski, and John Feyerer volunteered to serve on the subcommittee; Dorothy Sally was a suggested member. Pat Halbur agreed to convene the committee. The committee is to provide a progress report at the July Parish Council meeting. Todd Clancy said he would provide information regarding the Development Director positions at the St. Edmond's and Garrigan schools.

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- C. 2008-2009 Budget:** Jerry Greving presented the proposed 2008-2009 budget. [Members of the parish may obtain a copy of the budget at the Parish Office.] The highlights of Jerry's presentation are included in [Attachment #01](#). John Nelson moved that the proposed 2008-2009 budget be approved as submitted; seconded by Mark Imerman. Motion passed unanimously. Additional discussion noted that in future years the budget should be submitted earlier so new Parish Council members are not expected to approve it at their first meeting. This means budget approval would have to be scheduled for April because, according to the by-laws, newly elected Parish Council members take office at the first meeting following their election. The reason for the delay in presenting the budget at the April meeting was due to the new commission and committee work.
- D. Cornfest:** John Feyerer collected information from those present regarding a variety of Cornfest topics including Saturday night entertainment activities, tent set-up, serving and dining room set-up, beverages, and cleanup.
- E. Need for Volunteers:** John Feyerer noted that it is not enough to have the right organizational structure, the right leaders, and good high-level planning. We also need many workers. He asked all to personally encourage those we contact to become involved in volunteer work at Saint Cecilia's.
- F. Update Constitution and By-Laws:** Chuck Gilarski noted that the Parish Council By-Laws will eventually need updating because of our adoption of the Commission structure. Chuck volunteered to serve as a member of a committee to work on that project. Father Nienhaus noted that the Archdiocese is drafting new Parish Council guidelines and that we should begin hearing about them soon. The Secretary will include this topic in future agendas.

8. Board and Commission Reports:

- A. Board of Education:** Todd Clancy reported. Please see [Attachment #02](#).
1. **Vocations Committee:** No report.
- B. Worship & Spiritual Growth Commission:** Bob Hauser reported. The Worship Commission met this morning. Sacristy cleaning and remodeling project will begin Thursday. A Chapel furnishing surprise and the purchase of a new electronic keyboard will occur soon, thanks to support from bequests.
- C. Community and Family Life Commission:** Pat Halbur noted that a written report was included in the packet. Please see [Attachment #03](#). Pat also reported that the Family Life Committee is not meeting in June and July.
- D. Local and Global Outreach and Service Commission:** John Sankovitch reported. Please see [Attachment #04](#). The Home Care spreadsheet is included in the report as an example of how the commission intends to address separate need areas. Each work area committee will have its own statement of Purpose, Vision, Action Plan, Needed Skills and team members. The Commission will meet Thursday at 7 pm.
1. **Deanery:** No report.
 2. **Good Shepherd:** LuAnn Vulgamott reported that things are quiet this time of the year; they will be doing the repairs that were suggested by Rich Earles from the Archdiocese.
 3. **Sanctity of Life:** Janine Greenwood reported. Please see [Attachment #05](#). Janine highlighted the installation of a memorial to the unborn at the Catholic (northeast)

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section of the Ames Cemetery and encouraged all to place flowers there when they visit the cemetery. She emphasized the importance and influence of prayer at the Ames Planned Parenthood, the "abortion mill," crediting prayer as the reason for the reduction in operating hours. The mill is now open only one Saturday of the month vs. every Saturday. Janine also invited all to join in the prayer effort and to support the coast-to-coast Pro-Life walkers passing through Ames July 4-6.

4. Social Concerns Committee: Chuck Gilarski reported. Please see [Attachment #06](#).

E. Finance and Administration Commission: Please see the written report provided by Randy Dalhoff ([Attachment #07](#)).

1. Business Manager's Report: Jerry Greving reported. Please see [Attachment #08](#).

2. Facilities Committee: Jerry Greving reported. He asked Council members to note the excellent condition of the floors in the Social Hall, Kitchen, and hallways. He also reported that a college student has been hired to help with an extended list of summer maintenance tasks.

F. Community Development and Communication Commission: John Feyerer reported. Please see [Attachment #09](#) for projects the Commission has been working on and [Attachment #10](#) for a listing of the current Operating Guidelines for the Development/Communication Commission.

Father Nienhaus reminded the Council that it committed to reevaluating the Development/Communication Commission after one year of operation. That year will be up in October.

1. Elections Committee: No report.

2. Stewardship Committee: No report. The Committee has suspended until Fall.

9. Other Business and Comments:

A. Father Nienhaus was ordained on this day 19 years ago. Congratulations!

B. Extra prayers are requested for the Richard and Katerie Sevde family. They lost their 16-month old baby, Elsa, Sunday, in a tragic suffocation accident.

C. Thank you to departing Council members Chuck Gilarski, Karen Popelka, Jon Weber, and Board of Education representative Todd Clancy.

10. Adjournment and Closing Prayer: The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:55 pm.

The next regular meeting will be either in the Social Hall or at Dublin Bay, 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 22. Mark Bortle will inform Parish Council members prior to the July meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Haas, Secretary