

COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES
Thursday, April 28, 2011
IC Education Center Conference Room – 6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Crosby, Laura Rebhan, Arlene Tenner, Fr. Jim Brinkman, Tanya Weinzierl, Ragna Raasch and Eric Crandall. Members absent: Jo Germain, Audrey Cernohous and Connie Crosby

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order with prayer led by Chairperson Laura Rebhan with a shared prayer led by Fr. Jim.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes were accepted by consensus as published.

MINISTRY REPORTS:

Finance and Administration – Dave Crosby – There was discussion about Easter church listings in The News. Don suggested it be brought to Council of Ministries for discussion. Don Klein suggested that an explanation of Liturgy changes be made; this was explained. St. Mary's School and Cemetery are on budget. CF is currently over budget \$907, but overdue tuition is still coming in. Jo Germain mentioned that an increase in staff salary is due as they have had no increase the last two years. Today for Tomorrow account does have funds available to cover this if needed. Rectory account balance is increasing with less spending. Fr. Is saving to build a shed on the cement pad next to the Rectory. It will hold his snow blower, lawn mower, etc. Necessary as current garage will be rebuilt this year in new location at rear of cemetery and too far away for storing Father's equipment. IC statement is \$3,000 ahead of budget though still at a loss with Easter yet to be reported in next week's bulletin. Clarification of Scrip income/expenses was shared. Balance sheet is good. Today for Tomorrow account is currently at \$58,000. Jo Germain recommends raises for staff come from the IC account. Stewardship baskets are to be made by participating Councils to sell at MayFest. Re-establishment of the Endowment Policy was discussed with additional discussion at another meeting. Parish accounts checks and balances were discussed. Council meeting schedule was discussed and will be expanded upon at their next meeting. Discussion that there is no rush to move IC accounts around. Discussion regarding IC paying parishioner investors instead of the bank will be tabled for their next meeting. Hot Lunch Hunger Act was discussed and it is not anticipated to need to raise our meal prices. The topic of Energy efficient improvements for government credits was tabled for discussion at next month's meeting.

Dave explained how the project for the new garage and cemetery road work could be financed. A detailed listing of the financing of the project is attached with the permanent hard copy of these minutes. A motion was made and approved by consensus to go ahead with the project as proposed with a ceiling cost of \$20,000.

Stewardship – Jo Germain – no report.

Worship & Spiritual Life – Audrey Cernohous – no report.

Catechesis & Faith Formation – Laura Rebhan – CF will be drawing \$2,000 from the endowment fund to pay for the purchase of text books. Cari Giannini will be finished soon with her designated hours, possibly as soon as May 1. She would then return to work by July 1. Workcamp completed a pancake breakfast and will soon be holding their annual garage sale. Fr. Jim, Wanda Viellieux and Kim Palmer attended the Mass changes workshop. Respect Life Committee report was shared. We will be participating in the Baby Bottle drive for the Tri-County Lifecare Center. These bottles are filled with loose change the parishioners will bring back the bottles to IC and a check along with the bottles will be returned to the LifeCare center. Parishoners have donated money toward the purchase of Catholic Lighthouse audio CDs. They will be offered to the parish for \$3/CD. Within each CD is a one hour audio covering different aspects of our faith. The Lenten Series led by Fr. Jim was a great success and it was suggested that it be repeated next year. Deone Parnell and her family will be moving this summer to the Milwaukee area in order for Greg to pursue a new career. A going away party was going to be planned, but the Parnell family humbly requested no party. The CF Department will be seeking someone to replace her.

Education – Arlene Tenner – Registration for next year's Pre-Kindergarten is at 45 students. We have room for up to 52 in the program. St. Mary's School parent survey results were reviewed. Response rate was 73% of K - 8 families. As council follow-up to previous discussion last fall about school uniforms, no further action was noted for the school. From the survey respondents about the current uniform policy, 38 indicated being satisfied with the current uniform policy and 9 were not satisfied. The mimeo boards received from the generous donations at Mardi Gras arrived, were installed, and are being used. An anonymous donation was received for one iPad1. It is circulated for individual students to use for learning and for special projects.

Buildings and Grounds – Fr. Jim – CIP crew will be working in the cemetery for two days on May 25 & 26 doing cleanup. The water in the cemetery will no longer be turned on due to its age and many leaks. Parishioners are encouraged to bring their own water from home and water their flowers, or they can contract with the company who puts their flowers out for them. Flowers and head stones are not the responsibility of the parish. The gym roof has not been checked yet by the roofing company, but will be done when they put in the new scuppers on the middle roof this spring on the Education Center. Water is pooling on the middle roof and the scuppers with insulation will correct the problem. Since the initial problem early spring the gym roof has not leaked. If our budget and other variables hold together, we are planning on putting up the new garage in the cemetery and possibly fixing up the north side road into the cemetery and in the back. If there is enough money left over consideration might be given to put trap rock on the entire cemetery road around the entire loop. Also, we are presently getting a bid on a utility building to go on the concrete slab (Approx. 11' x 22') north of the rectory to house the lawn tractor and equipment. This building would be paid for from the rectory house maintenance account. We will be checking with the city to see if this can be done. The parking lot has been swept and most of the sand from the winter removed. Fr. Jim can still do it in six hours at the age of 65!

Outreach – Annette Rudd – Brief report delivered by Tanya. Outreach has not met again since we made homemade soup for new members. We have only had one new family register to our parish since January 1, 2011. We will be planning for the C.O.M.E. meal (community outreach meal for everyone) set for May 17, 2011

Parish Social – Tanya Weinzierl – Everything is going as planned for May Fest. We have 3 competitors for the "Battle of the BBQ." We would have liked to have had 5 however the three that are entered are very excited about this new addition. Instead of having 50 judges we will only have 30 judges now to accommodate fewer than planned competitors. We only have one pick up date planned for the live auction as gas prices are too high to expect anyone to drive on two separate dates. We do have 2 drop-off dates planned for April 28th and May 14th.

Parish at Large – Eric Crandall/Ragna Raasch – no report.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: Fr. Jim reported that Connie Crosby has e-mailed her resignation from the Council due to a change in her work schedule that would not allow her to be able to attend the balance of this fiscal year's meetings. She has requested that Annie Rud replace her on the Outreach Ministry. By consensus the Council accepted Connie's resignation and approved Annie Rud as the new representative.

Fr. Jim presented a request from St. Mary's School for the school to purchase and install some new play ground equipment. The equipment would be put in the wood chip section with the exception of the portable soccer nets that would be brought in and out from the school. The school has saved fifteen hundred dollars for this project to purchase and install with volunteers and school maintenance. Request approved by consensus. The question came up about a sign placed on the fence stating that "we are not responsible of accidents" since the playground is used after school hours by neighboring children. Buildings and Grounds will look into the sign.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. Fr. Jim closed with a prayer and some fresh smoked salmon and crackers ere enjoyed by all compliments of Steve and Tanya Weinzierl. The next meeting will take place May 26, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., Education Center Conference room.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa Skramstad – Secretary