

St. Elizabeth Parish Council Meeting Minutes
July 27th, 2010

Attendees: Fr. Bruce, Carolyn Sawyer, Jennifer Prusa, Bob Reiter, Gary Vontz, Josh Brewster & Bill Egelhoff

Fr. Bruce led the group in reflection & prayer.

Minutes from the July 1st meeting were reviewed, several corrections noted & approved with corrections.

New Council members update: Kathy O'Toole declined the Finance Committee invitation. Gary Vontz will remain with us until September/October or possibly longer. Jennifer suggested some candidates for Jan's open slot: Dianna Sack, Erin Kiekbusch & Sherry Roschitz and Bill recommended Susan Stanton. Fr. Bruce will contact them. The new members should be able to connect & tell the story of St. Elizabeth to the larger community.

Stewardship: Denis Greene, President of Church Development, is leading the committee during this planning stage. Committee members include: Fr. Bruce, Vicky Kinney, Beth Cressey, Gus Sonnenberg, Betty & John Novak, Jessie Underwood, Kerm Fendler and Todd Barrett. Bob has visited with Beth Cressey regarding the relationship with the new School Development Committee, Finance Committee and the Parish Council. Bob stated his opinion regarding the need for a separate Endowment Committee. Gary shared some facts & thoughts as well. A spirited debate ensued and it was decided that the conversation could be continued at another time. The Council feels strongly that the four Parish segments-Parish Council; Finance Committee, the School Development Committee/School Board & the Stewardship Committee need to collaborate to define each groups' responsibilities, be crystal clear & with total transparency. We need to get all the ideas out, discover new talents and promote parish engagement & ownership. Who's in control? We need to hear more from each group.

Town Hall: The Town Hall ("Let the conversation continue theme") meeting is October 3rd in Seton Hall after 10:00 Mass & October 4th in Seton Hall @ 7:00pm. With seven items on the agenda, each report will be limited to three minutes. Jennifer will invite the presenters; give direction and a general overview of the meeting. What do we need to do? Assignments were distributed-1) Facilities: Carolyn Sawyer/Bill Egelhoff; 2) Agenda/handouts: Jennifer Prusa; 3) Publicity/Communications: Josh Brewster/Bob Reiter. Bob will provide an article of 80-100 words about the Council/Town Hall meeting to the Elizabethan by August 15th. We will need information from Jim Van Dyke one week prior to the Town Hall.

Celebration 2017 review:

Goal #1-Strengthen the parish community/owners-Josh Brewster/Bill Egelhoff.

Fr. Bruce feels welcoming efforts are good. Josh feels our outreach efforts can be improved and ramped up, e.g. "spotlight a parishioner" in the Elizabethan; get St. E's out into the community. Youth ministry is very important. Perhaps the school alumni

committee could help engagement/involvement process. What about a Rockhurst University student leading the youth ministry? Josh will check into any CYC, CYO activities and advise. High schools seem to take over all activities.

Goal #2-Provide the best opportunity for spiritual growth in the Catholic tradition/owners-Carolyn Sawyer/candidate representing the Single groups. Susie Adams continues to evaluate Sunday Masses. All Council member that attended 10:00a Mass, July 25th agreed the music with multiple guitars + other instruments plus the choir inspired the congregation!! Ask Megan Reardon back!!!! Bringing the choir downstairs is still under evaluation. We need to watch the clock, e.g. Speakers, baptisms, multiple announcements, etc. Susie will be scheduling EM's, lectors & greeters. Charlie Cecil is taking a leave of absence, perhaps a year. Fr. Bruce will take the lead on marriage prep during Charlie's absence. Hopefully marriage prep/lead couples will be back.

Goal #3-Provide an exemplary Catholic School education for the children of the St. Elizabeth community-owners-Fr. Bruce/Jeff Randolph
We need to hear from the School Board.

Goal #4-Reach Out & Evangelize to our community (by our actions)-owners-Jennifer Prusa/Bob Reiter. Started CRHP; Parish Council established, need to create opportunities for outreach, e.g. St. E's service days for various community needs. Pick one or two ways to get out in the community. Float this idea @ the Town Hall meeting via verbal or written response. What might you do? Optimize our visibility in the community via marketing & parish stories.

Goal #5-Optimize Spiritual Atmosphere(facilities & grounds)-owners-Gary Vontz/Pat Saviano. Will check into maintenance audit, then prioritize projects and match to the budget. Did the school do this already? Some contact suggestions were Alan Langford & Martha Kaufmann. Fr. Bruce announced the hiring of our new supervisor of grounds & maintenance- Nathan Eyer who replaces Steve who retired.

>>We will continue to review what we have done, what we are doing for 2011 and what we need to achieve for 2017.

The Council decided to take a quick summer break in August and scheduled our *next meeting for September 23rd in the PMC @ 6:00pm*

Agenda for the 9.23.10 meeting:

- Prayer & Reflection-Gary Vontz
- Approval of 07.27.10 minutes
- Confirm Town Hall agenda/assignments

Meeting adjourned. Respectfully submitted by Bill Egelhoff, Secretary

