

These meeting minutes were approved by the Parish Council  
at the August 22 meeting.

**SAINT CECILIA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Social Hall**  
**Tuesday, July 18, 2006**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chuck Gilarski, Jonathan Weber, Karen Popelka, Terry Herrman, Bill Haas, Sly Upah, Jean Kresse, Lisa Underhill-Schmidt, Mark Bortle, LuAnn Vulgamott, Father Ivan Nienhaus

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jerry Greving--Business Manager, Bob Hauser--Music and Liturgy Director, Todd Clancy--Board of Ed, Randy Dalhoff--Finance Committee Chairman, Joe Lawlor--Youth Minister

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Pat Halbur

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Chuck Gilarski called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.
2. **PRAYER:** Bob Hauser led the group in the prayer of the day.  
Chuck Gilarski introduced and welcomed Father Ivan Nienhaus to the Parish Council. The members present introduced themselves, giving a brief statement about their life.
3. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Mark Bortle pointed out a typo error on the second page under old business. Error corrected. **Motion** made by Terry Herrman and seconded by Mark Bortle to approve the minutes of the June meeting with the correction. **MOTION CARRIED.**
4. **STAFF REPORTS:**

**Financial Report:** Jerry Greving briefly went over some of the financial documents in the packet ([Please see Attachment #1](#)), including a recap of revenue and expense for the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. Contributions are \$10,700 under budget projections at this point. The \$20,000 for the remodel of the pre-school was taken from savings. Father Nienhaus pointed out that any expenditure over \$2500 needs to go through the Archdiocese for approval. Jerry will see that the form is sent and approved.

**Board of Education:** Todd Clancy reported in Pat Halbur's absence; a written report was provided in the packet ([Please see Attachment #2](#)). The Board did not meet in July. Todd thanked the Knights of Columbus for their help with remodeling of a portion of the old rectory to provide new pre-school space. The purchase of new playground equipment was made with \$3,000 from the Gala. All fall teaching positions have been filled. The first meeting of the school expansion study committee will be on August 7 at 3:30 P.M. in the Social Hall. Potential members are: Bill Haas, Terry Herrman, Todd Clancy, Pat Halbur, Joel Thilges, John Nelson, Lori Van Fleet, Father Nienhaus, Duane Siepker, and John Hayes. Sister Jean Marie and Jeff Henderson of the Archdiocese will attend the first meeting. Council members voiced concern that general members of the parish be involved and whether employees should be voting members. Jean Kresse reiterated that the committee needs representation from parish members who are not deeply involved in school matters as well as from those who are.

**Spiritual Growth and Liturgy:** Bob Hauser reported.

The committee did not meet in July and no written report was provided.

At the 10:30 Mass on August 13, Father Ev Hemann, Vicar Forane of our (Marshalltown) deanery, will formally install Father Ivan Nienhaus as our new pastor.

The bells have been repaired and should be peeling out the sound of music this week.

The new schedule for Reconciliation will be Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm

**Parish Community Life:** Jean Kresse reported; a written report was provided in the packet ([Please see Attachment #3](#)).

New babies and Parishioners are being greeted and welcomed.

Time and Talent survey continues to be organized.

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Good News from the Pews will come out on July 21.

For Corn Fest, committee members will help where needed. Pat Rood will help Karen with kitchen coordination if needed.

New committee members are Michelle Flattery and Christine Baker.

Social Hall and Narthex policies are being reviewed.

Upcoming events under consideration include

- Community Fair, Fall 2006
- Pictorial Directory, Spring 2007
- Expansion of the Good News from the Pews

Scheduled Events are

- August 27, coffee and donuts
- September 21, Potluck
- Next meeting, August 30

**Youth Ministry:** Joe Lawlor reported. The Youth Ministry Team did not meet in July – no written report.

The Appalachian team is ready to go with 33 participants from St. Cecilia and 7 from Madrid. They will be taking a bus this year. There will be a blessing and send-off at the 5:00 Mass on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July. Father

Nienhaus agreed to bless the bus load of kids and chaperones at 11:30 P.M. in the parking lot of the church.

Joe asked for prayers for John Hayes as new cancer has been detected.

The Youth will be sponsoring the August 27<sup>th</sup> coffee and donuts.

#### **5. Old Business:**

**Corn Fest:** After much discussion, **motion** by Terry Herrman, seconded by Jean Kresse, that we have the food preparation and dining in the Social Hall facilities. **Motion Passed.** All other activities will be in the AY Room and the Multi-purpose room. Festivities will begin at 2:00 with food being served from 3:30 to 5:30. A band, name unknown, booked by Father Terry, will play on Sunday. It was decided to go ahead with Saturday night activities, from 7:00 to 10:30. **Sound Track** has agreed to play on Saturday evening. Karen Popelka and Jon Weber volunteered to help coordinate the evening festivities with Joan Jones guidance. Mark Bortle will organize the Knights assistance. Lisa Schmidt will handle all publicity.

**Budget:** Randy Dalhoff

The budget proposal was included in the June parish council packet.

Randy made a strong point that this needs to be the last year of deficit spending (making up income from savings). We need to have next year's budget balance. Looking at this year's budget that would mean about a 3% reduction across the board in expenses. Bill Haas noted that spending cuts are not the only way to balance the budget – we could attempt to increase revenue as well.

Lisa suggested we have a “Budget 101” meeting 1 hour prior to next months meeting to familiarize everyone with the budget and budget terms. We will meet at 6:00 on August 22 in the Social hall if available.

**Motion** by Terry Herrman, seconded by Mark Bortle, that we table the budget until next meeting. **Motion Passed.**

**Father Terry’s Farewell and Narthex Dedication:** Chuck Gilarski spoke of the success of the affair. It was discussed and agreed that we need to showcase our new facility. Father suggested celebrating the narthex completion and a new beginning for the future.

#### **6. New Business:**

Father Nienhaus commented positively concerning the future of the church and school.

The Parish Council meeting date will be changed to the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

The council discussed ways to show appreciation to all parishioners for their generosity in the building of the narthex.

How important it is to continue building for the future of the Parish and its youth.

Discussed ways to show appreciation and how to encourage everyone to continue their generous support until the project is completed. Suggestions for encouraging participation were:

- a. In the bulletin, name with appreciation all persons who pledge

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- b. Message from Parish Council about moving forward
- c. Be sure we are all on the same page with information
- d. Various inserts in bulletin
- e. A true celebration of the narthex completion
- f. Keeping communication open with all Parish members
- g. Tours of the narthex explaining in detail all its features

Bill Haas noted that we need to update all the information regarding the Building for Our Future program before we begin communicating with the parish concerning Phase II. This should include data from the latest October counts, which had not yet been shared, to the best of his knowledge. Randy Dalhoff said he has the data, and that, contrary to the trend of previous years, they indicate Mass attendance was up by approximately one percent. Haas asked Dalhoff to share the latest data with the council in the context of the previous years' data. The Council decided to have a special meeting on August 2 at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall to review the Building for Our Future information packet and video. Finance and Administration and Building Committee members will be invited as well.

**Communication Received:**

As the council was assembling for this evening's meeting, Mike Heitzman distributed copies of a letter to the Parish Council from himself and his wife, Jill. The letter strongly encouraged the council to keep its actions focused on the primary reason for the Building for Our Future program, the need for a larger worship space. The letter also rejected the notion that the Building for Our Future pledge campaign only addressed Phase I, the building of the narthex or Gathering Space. After some discussion, Chairman Gilarski volunteered to write a letter response.

**Committee Representative Assignments for 2006/07:**

Chairman Gilarski reported that he has named Randy Dalhoff as chair of the Finance and Administration Committee. Other representative assignments are as follows.

Building	Jon Weber
Deanery Representative	Sly Upah
Elections	Chuck Gilarski and Karen Popelka
Facilities	Jon Weber
Family Life	Terry Herrman
Finance and Administration	Lisa Schmidt
Parish Community Life	Jean Kresse
Sanctity of Life	Mark Bortle
Social Concerns	Chuck Gilarski
Spiritual Growth and Liturgy	Bill Haas
Stewardship	Bill Haas
Youth Ministry Team	Karen Popelka

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Good Shepherd** – LuAnn Vulgamott reported.

Will have a fall clean up.

John McCully has helped organize a very successful prayer chain.

We have 2 shut-ins that are taken communion.

**Social Concerns** – Chuck Gilarski reported and provided a written report in the packet ([Please see Attachment #4](#)).

Financial: Last year, the Social Concerns Committee distributed \$35,000, nationally, internationally, locally and to the parish. A table showing actual (January - June 2006) and projected (July - December 2006) receipts and disbursements was provided in the parish council packet. [Parish members may obtain a copy at the Parish Office.] The committee may possibly reduce disbursements to each organization by 10% to avoid running out of funds. Social Concerns will be giving a donation to the Lord's Cupboard in Jewell.

Good Samaritan: The June food collection was down from 49 bags last year to 25 bags this year.

AMOS: House meetings training July 26 at St. Thomas Aquinas.

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July 10 Celebration of St. Thomas joining AMOS – St. Cecilia invited

Good Neighbor: Is low on funds, is moving to the 1<sup>st</sup> Methodist Annex at 508 Kellogg Avenue, and is considering joining ASSET.

Outreach: Report from Sue Stanton on the Holy Land. Letter discussed and tabled until more members in attendance

Request: Food for the Poor. Will review

Publicity: Communications from Story County Alliance for Philanthropy, and Catholic Charities will be placed in the bulletin.

**Sanctity of Life** – Jon Weber reported.

A Pro Life 101 Conference will be held August 26, 12:00 -4:00 pm, in the Great Hall of the Memorial Union.

This is a joint venture with other churches and organizations to inform and educate youth about the consequences of making life affecting decisions. Bulletins to churches and schools, ad in the Daily, and e-mails will follow.

**Family Life** - Terry Herrman

No report

**Finance and Administration** – Randy Dalhoff reported. The committee did not meet in July; there is no written report.

A closing prayer and pastoral comment ended the meeting at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by  
Karen K. Popelka  
Secretary