

These meeting minutes were approved
at the April 24 meeting.

**Minutes Of The
SAINT CECILIA PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING
Tuesday March 27, 2007**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Weber, Mark Bortle, Karen Popelka, Chuck Gilarski, Sly Upah, Lisa Underhill Schmidt, Bill Haas, Terry Herrman, Jean Kresse and Finance Committee Chair, Randy Dalhoff.

MEMBERS ABSENT: LouAnn Vulgamott and Father Nienhaus (who was attending the Communal Reconciliation).

OTHERS PRESENT: Youth Minister Joe Lawlor, Business Manager Jerry Greving, Board of Education Representative Larry Gross and Recording Secretary Jim Westphal.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** As Chairman **Chuck Gilarski** was at McFarland Clinic at the start of the meeting, Vice Chairman **Jonathan Weber** called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
2. **PRAYER:** **Larry Gross** led the group in prayer and meditation from the Prayer Services for Parish Council book.
3. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** **Sly Upah** asked if motions could be annotated as unanimous or a division called when reported in the Minutes. **MOTION** by **Bill Haas**, supported by **Mark Bortle** to accept the Minutes of the February Meeting as amended. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**
4. **STAFF REPORTS:**

Parish Community Life – Jean Kresse reviewed the report that is contained in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #1](#)). She noted:

- The Bulletin Kiosk which was built by John Kleinschmidt who donated all material and labor. Special pushpins are necessary when posting materials there.
- Work is beginning on the new Directory, committee chairs are encouraged to take many pictures for the Directory.

Youth Ministry Report – Joe Lawlor reported on the Minutes in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #2](#)). Joe noted:

- That it is the perception of teens from a nationwide survey that they think their parents need more instruction in their faith.
- The number one teen group is the Mormons, with the Catholics coming in second and the Jewish third.
- The Appalachia Trip is down to six openings.

There was discussion regarding Joe's decision to train all confirmation candidates in the duties of Eucharistic Ministers.

Lisa Underhill Schmidt asked if any consideration was being given to attending the World Youth Day in Australia. Joe said he was not planning on attending personally because of expenses. Information is available at <http://www.wyd2008.org/index.php/en>.

Business Manager's Report- Jerry Greving reviewed his report that is contained in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #3](#)).

He also said:

- Although revenues continue to be above budget estimates there is still a problem with cash flow.
- Still working on budgets. Hope to have them to the Finance Committee by their next meeting.
- He and the staff are working on job descriptions.

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There was discussion regarding the balancing of the budget and methods used to correct overspending.

Board of Education – Larry Gross reviewed his report contained in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #4](#)). Larry also mentioned that the Board has decided to return to a separate appreciation night for Catechists. This was passed with a unanimous motion.

There followed a discussion regarding school enrollment numbers.

Spiritual Growth & Liturgy – Bill Haas reported on the minutes of the Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee ([See addendum #5](#)) and reviewed the points contained therein.

Bill pointed out:

- They are in the process of having Easter banners printed.
- There will be two distinctly different services on Good Friday.
- There will be three masses Easter Sunday morning: at 7:00 am, 8:00 am and 10:30 am.
- There was some discussion on the lack of music during Communion and the Latin responses. It caused discomfort for some.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Revisit Mass Counts:

Lisa Underhill Schmidt asked back in February if we should revisit the Mass counts which are normally done in October. Discussion showed that a recount at this time would probably be skewed in that April 1st is Palm Sunday, April 8th is Easter Sunday, May is graduations and then people go on vacation.

This idea was scratched.

B. Phase II Fundraising

Chuck Gilarski said he met with the Cosgriff Company. They are planning a Feasibility Study for late April and early May and a campaign start in early September.

C. Resume Discussion of the SEE Committee:

Bill Haas said he met with school Principal Duane Siepker and was given a tour of the school and the proposed changes in the Kindergarten classrooms and storage areas. He said there is talk of using I.S.U. School of Design personnel to gain ideas for creative use of space. The Council needs to continuously look to the future to keep pro-active in this venture.

It was decided that the School Expansion Exploratory Committee (SEE) had done its job and could be disbanded although a new committee could be formed in the future if needed.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Columbarium. It was noted that because there are no Catholic cemeteries in Ames, a Columbarium might be considered as part of the Phase II planning for the Church. This topic was tabled until next month when Father Nienhaus can be present.

B. Pre-Funeral Planning A presentation was offered by **Anne Schmitt** and **Brian Snider** of Stevens Funeral Home to have an educational presentation done at Saint Cecilia's regarding the benefits of Pre-Funeral planning. After the presentation the topic was discussed and tabled until next meeting for comment from Father Nienhaus and the possible inclusion of the Bereavement Committee.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Long Range Building Committee – Jonathan Weber reported that there are ongoing talks with the Archdiocese and the architect. The Archdiocese is not in favor of using the Chapel as "overflow" space.

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Social Concerns Committee – **Chuck Gilarski** handed out the Minutes of the last Committee meeting. ([See addendum #6](#)). He highlighted the fact that Sue Stanton has been successful in bringing in a Melkite priest, Father Haddad. She is planning to hold some interfaith meetings with groups of varying faiths so questions can be shared. This event will be co-sponsored by Saint Cecilia and Saint Thomas parishes on April 21st and 22nd.

Sanctity of Life – **Mark Bortle** – No report.

Family Life Committee- **Terry Herrman** – Terry had to leave the meeting early but a report was contained in the packet ([See addendum #6a](#)).

Finance and Administration – **Randy Dalhoff** said a report was contained in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #7](#)).

Good Shepherd – A report is contained in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #8](#)).

Stewardship Committee – **Bill Haas** reported that the meeting had to be rescheduled but 5 people did attend. Bill and Julie Haas attended a Stewardship workshop in Marshalltown. He is happy to report that at least one CFM group has started to study the Stewardship document.

Deanery – **Sly Upah** – No report.

Facilities – **Jonathan Weber** reported that in talking with our neighbor he is willing to remove the part of the fence that blocks the line of sight from the rear driveway. **Jerry Greving** reported some stress cracks in the ceiling of the new Narthex.

8. OBSERVATIONS/EVALUATION/FEEDBACK –

Jean Kresse wished to thank **SoundTrack** for the program and concert they presented in the Narthex.

Bill Haas said he thinks the Parish Council needs a plan as to where we want to go.

9. PASTORAL COMMENTS –

10. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 pm.

The next regular meeting will be 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 24th in the Social Hall.

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