

The Parish Council reviewed and approved these meeting minutes
at the August 28 meeting.

**SAINT CECILIA PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING**

**At the Dublin Bay Restaurant
Tuesday July 24, 2007**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Bortle, Chuck Gilarski, Mark Imerman, Jon Weber, Janine Greenwood, Bill Haas, Karen Popelka, Pat Halbur, Board of Education Representative Larry Gross and Father Nienhaus.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sly Upah and LouAnn Vulgamott.

OTHERS PRESENT: Business Manager Jerry Greving, Recording Secretary Jim Westphal and Chairman of the Finance Committee Randy Dalhoff.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman **Chuck Gilarski** opened the meeting at 6:04 pm.
2. **PRAYER:** **Chuck Gilarski** led the group in a blessing over the food.
3. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** **Bill Haas** corrected several typos in the Minutes.

MOTION by **Jonathan Weber**, supported by **Karen Popelka** that the Minutes be accepted as amended.
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

4. **STAFF REPORTS:**

Youth Ministry Report – **Karen Popelka** reported that the first Board Meeting of the new Fiscal Year would be August 7, 2007. **Jerry Greving** reported that 49 people are in Appalachia.

Business Manager's Report- **Jerry Greving** noted a report was in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #1](#)).
He also noted:

- A new full time Custodian has been hired for the Church.
- In July we are including a contribution income report in the weekly parish bulletin.
- The net loss for last fiscal year totaled \$33,719. Approximately \$30,000 of this is attributable to the Preschool remodel project.

Board of Education – **Larry Gross** said the first meeting of the Fiscal Year will take place in August. He said he has been elected President of the Board and a new representative will be reporting to the Council this year. Larry also noted due to a retirement and some restructuring no teacher's aides had to be let go this year.

Spiritual Growth & Liturgy – **Bill Haas** thanked all those involved in making the Corpus Christi procession a success. He added that new banners for "ordinary" time have been ordered for the lamp posts in the parking lot.

Parish Community Life – There is a report contained in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #2](#)).

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. **Committee Assignments - Chuck Gilarski** asked if there were any changes in committee assignments.

- **Janine Greenwood** asked to serve on the Sanctity of Life Committee.
- **Mark Bortle** asked to serve on the Long Range Building Committee.
- **Sly Upah** through an e-mail to Chairman Gilarski asked to serve on the Vocations Committee and be granted an alternate to help serve on the Deanery Committee.
- **Pat Halbur** was given the Family Life Committee assignment.
- **Mark Imerman** asked to serve on the Finance Committee.
- **Bill Haas** requested to remain with the Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee.
- **Karen Popelka** agreed to stay on the Elections Committee.

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B. Feasibility Study – Chuck Gilarski asked if anyone had received any feedback from parishioners on the Feasibility Study.

- **Father Nienhaus** said we must improve our communications with the Parish. We will need a multi-million dollar loan from the Archdiocese and it must be made clear to the Parish what and why we are doing what we are doing. He and Business Manager Jerry Greving will be meeting tomorrow with a Public Relations candidate for the Building Committee.
- **Jerry Greving** suggested the Feasibility Study be put on the Web as a whole.
- **Mark Imerman** suggested an executive summary be placed there as well for people who don't wish to read the entire study.
- **Bill Haas** suggested using the Adobe pdf format to identify chapter by chapter what people might want to read. He also suggested sharing some of this information with parishioners through the Bulletin or in a Bulletin insert.
- **Father Nienhaus** asked that we wait until they have had a chance to interview the potential PR candidate to see if he/she has any ideas and to let that person implement this information.

C. Cornfest – Chuck Gilarski asked if everyone was ready and knew their roles in Cornfest.

- **Karen Popelka** said the sign-up sheets are ready to be posted.
- **Chuck Gilarski** said the corn cooking equipment is ready to go. He added that “Sound-Trak” will play on Saturday evening.
- **Jonathan Weber** said the food is being taken care of.
- **Mark Bortle** reported that the Knights of Columbus are ready to serve beverages.
- **Karen Popelka** said the kitchen help is set with two shifts to help serve and cleanup.
- **Father Nienhaus** reported that John Hayes has assured him that Anna Steele will take care of the games.
- **Chuck Gilarski** said he will get the Liquor and Noise permits.
- **Father Nienhaus** has agreed to sit in the dunk tank ***with his Hawkeye t-shirt on!***
- **Mark Imerman** has the tents and chairs under control.
- **Bill Haas** will procure the corn.

D. Voting Privileges for Ex-Officio Members –

It was determined that the Deanery Representative, even though he is off the Council has voting privileges until his term on the Deanery expires and ...

- The Board of Education representative and Lay Director Randy Dalhoff, as chairman of the Finance Committee also have voting privileges.

E. Evangelization Committee – Bill Haas called attention to the handouts he provided in the packet for last month's meeting. [Please see addendum #3, Evangelization Committee](#), and [addendum #4, Evangelization Resources](#). He noted that there is a growing realization within the Catholic Church that we have been too much in “maintenance mode”, our own Church, our own buildings, our own programs. Instead, we should be emphasizing the mission given us by Jesus: “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

- **Father Nienhaus** said the emphasis needs to be outside our own parish. We need a community outreach, something designed to bring neighbors into our Parish. While missions are often thought to be sending evangelists to Africa, we need evangelists sent into our local neighborhoods.
- **Janine Greenwood** said Ralph Martin, a speaker on this very subject, will be coming to Saint Thomas' January 29-30, 2008.
- There was discussion on who should chair this Committee: a staff member? Someone in Lay Formation? A Deacon?
- **Father Nienhaus** said we will probably go with a volunteer for now.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

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7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Facilities – **Jon Weber** reported that a new tree has been planted at the school and new sod has been placed in medians.

Deanery – **No report.**

Long Range Building Committee – **No Report**

Social Concerns Committee – **Chuck Gilarski** reported that a report is in the Parish Council packet, [See addendum #5](#), and added donations are up.

Sanctity of Life – **Mark Bortle** reported that a report was in the Parish Council packet, [See addendum #6](#)

Family Life Committee – **No report.**

Finance and Administration – Covered under staff reports. ([See addendum #7](#)).

Good Shepherd – **No report.**

Stewardship Committee – **Bill Haas** reported that 7 people participated in the July meeting in addition to Linda Manternach and Sally Weber, the new director of the Archdiocesan Office of Stewardship. He also reported that the group has been invited to attend a Stewardship workshop from 2:00 to 5:00 pm at Saint Thomas More Church in Iowa City on August 23rd.

Elections – **No Report.**

8. OBSERVATIONS/EVALUATION/FEEDBACK

9. PASTORAL COMMENTS -

Father Nienhaus commented on the following items:

- If something in the parish needs attention the Parish Council should know about it.
- We will be talking about a new building for the next year. If we don't get it done now, we never will. Each year we delay, the price goes up another million dollars.
- Agenda timelines – we don't need to sit in these meetings 3 to 4 hours. The Recording Secretary gets notices of upcoming meetings out in plenty of time for you to get your committee reports into the Parish Council packets. If we all read them before the meeting there is no need to reread each one at the meeting.
- There is a priest coming from Africa to study at Iowa State University for a two year period. Although he will be living at Saint Thomas' there is a possibility he can help out with sacramental occasions here at Saint Cecilia's.
- He also asked for prayers for John Hayes whose cancer had returned.

10. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm. With the Our Father.

The next regular meeting will be 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 28th in the Social Hall.

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