

St. Dominic Parish Council Minutes
Meeting of September 8, 2009

The monthly meeting of St. Dominic Parish Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 8, 2009, by Chairman Cathy Cooper. The opening prayer was offered by Annette Hites.

Members attending were Rusty Burnett, Fr. Jim Cink, Larry Cleary, Cathy Cooper, Wayne Etheridge, Michele Grimes, Annette Hites, Rick Kopec, Michele Manry, Martha Mundine, Jenò Piccini, and Annette Quint.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the August 11, 2009 meeting were distributed in a mailing and corrections were called for by the chairman. The minutes were approved as standing.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. 7 Steps to Financial Freedom - It was reported that Orientation has been completed for the program. The three groups of 20 people have begun. There will be a Spring session as well.
- B. Budget - Our budget has a \$200,000 deficit at this time. \$120,000 has been cut out and more cuts may need to be made. 25% of the programs were cut last year. Our expenses are down \$67,000 and income is up \$25,000 so that is promising. We are trying to stay out of our savings account. The main things affecting our expenses are property insurance (\$87,000), increased health insurance, and increased utility bills. Things that are out of our control are mainly affecting our expenses. Archbishop Rodi changed our insurance deductible but in doing so it raised our premium price. Maintenance is also an expensive part of the issue. It is even more expensive when put off for a period of time. Resources get more expensive over time. Our goal for 2010 is \$1.3 million in income.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Prayer for the Next Meeting - will be offered by Larry Cleary.
- B. Golden Eagles Extravaganza - Cathy Cooper will be organizing a scrapbook basket as a donation to the Extravaganza from the Parish Council. Each council member is asked to donate at least \$5 to the cause. Please plan to bring your money to the October meeting.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Social Concerns

Knights of Columbus – Rusty Burnett, Grand Knight, reported that the Knights will be sponsoring the Doughnut Social this Sunday after the morning Masses. He reported that the Knights will be at the Mobile Airport next Wednesday welcoming back veterans of the Iraq war. The Knights recently assisted with parking for the Booster Club Football

Jamboree and are currently discussing a project involving a handicapped ramp onto the sports fields.

Jubilee Club – Jubilee Club is meeting this week and will be electing new officers.

Confraternity of Christian Mothers – The Confraternity starts meeting next week with a new topic of discussion each week. They are looking into a book study for the Spring session.

Booster Club – No report, Charles Drury absent

Respect Life – No report, Lisa Ryan absent

CYO/Youth – See attached report

Evangelization Committee – See attached report

Development Office – Michele Grimes reported that the Golden Eagles Extravaganza will be on October 10, 2009 with the theme of “Hula to the Luau.” Tickets are \$25 per person. The Dominican Happenings newsletter will be sent out next week and feedback was requested for some new changes. The Stewardship Committee will be meeting soon for the upcoming Appeal for 2010. The Ministry Fair will be October 25, 2009 after the 9, 11:30, and 5:30 Masses. Our Annual Town Hall meeting will be held November 1, 2009.

B. Education

1. St. Dominic School – See attached report

2. Children’s Religious Education – No report, Brenda Christian absent

C. Building and Properties – Larry Cleary reported that the church has had some electrical problems repaired recently.

D. Finance – Michele Manry reported that July collections were up 3.6% (\$22,000). Our expenses are \$83,000 less this year and we are currently \$48,000 in the black whereas last year at this time we were \$70,000 in the red. She attributed this to our paying monthly on some expenses instead of in full. \$18,000 has been collected thus far for the Parking Lot Fund.

E. Liturgy – Liturgy committee meets at the end of September and will begin planning for Advent and Christmas.

PASTOR’S COMMENTS – Fr. Jim explained that Archbishop Rodi has decided to honor longstanding volunteers with the Christ the King Diocesan Medal. Pastors will make a nomination for the Parish at the end of September. Fr. Jim asked for nominations from the Council to assist in his decision making.

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CLOSING PRAYER – Fr. Jim offered the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Hites
Council Member