

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE - PARISH COUNCIL

3222 S. 29th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53215
Pastor: Rev. Gregory M. Spitz



MINUTES - MEETING OCTOBER 10, 2005 - 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Fr. Greg Spitz, Fred Kleczka, Laverne Tabbert, Ann Dargis, Becky McKinnon, Ken O'Neill, Cheryl Finger, Steve Leinski, Tony Lieu, Angela Miller, Geri Mitchell, John Oliva

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Lois Hammond, Christopher Oliva

MEMBERS ABSENT

Janet Orlowski, Allyson Weiss

Cheryl opened with a prayer.

Fr. Greg motioned to approve the minutes and Becky seconded the motion.

PAST BUSINESS

Fall Raffle

Raffle on hold until 2006.

The suggested prize breakdown would be: 1st \$2,500 / 2nd \$1,500 / 3rd \$1,000.

There is not enough time to coordinate the raffle for this fall so as not to coincide with people's Christmas expenses. The committee thought it best to wait until next fall because to have it in spring would interfere with the raffles which begin in March/April in coordination with the summer festival.

It is the intention to use profits from this fundraiser to pay for tuck-pointing and various school maintenance projects.

Hurricane Katrina Relief Fundraiser

The school children had a penny "war" that was great fun and all 52,000 pennies plus other monies collected went to the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Great job kids!

OLQP/BS Joint Parish Council Meeting

The PC presidents and pastors of both parishes are meeting 10/12 to work up an agenda for a future joint PC meeting. The joint PC meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 11/5 at 10am at Blessed Sacrament Parish.

Website Update

Initial work is being done for an enhanced interactive website containing more pictures, information, and links. The new version is expected to be up & running by Christmas. Dave Grzybowski has graciously offered to continue to be our Webmaster. Thanks Dave!

NEW BUSINESS

Food Preparation

A bingo patron complained of getting ill from food purchased at the 9/14 bingo session. The Health Department did an inspection and discovered a few procedures needed to be changed.

Any food needing to be kept cold for freshness is to be kept in a cooler and not left out. This includes sandwiches, milk for coffee, etc. Those who prepare food are to wear hairnets and gloves. Those serving food are to wear hairnets.

Denise, the school lunch coordinator, will be writing rules and regulations for any person/group utilizing the kitchen including the mechanics of appliances and where items are to be stored.

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As stated in previous minutes, it is the intention to have one person/coordinator order all food/paper products for all OLQP committees/groups so an inventory is monitored and any wastefulness is eliminated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Steve Lelinski emailed the PC members asking for a roster, chair name, and contact information for the committee each is liaison to. No liaison was able to give a formal list/accounting of this information at this meeting. Carol in the rectory office needs the information to aid in scheduling meetings and Cheryl needs the information so she can be aware of whom she should be receiving committee minutes from.

Youth – NO REPORT – No representation present

School – NO REPORT – No meetings have been established

Christian Formation – NO REPORT

Worship – NO REPORT – No meetings have been established

Human Concerns - reported by Laverne Tabbert

The Human Concerns Committee meets 1x/month. Last meeting was 10/6. Discussed and planned is the project of serving dinner to the residents of the Mother Theresa House Homeless Shelter on 10/28, 12/9, and 12/27/05. Anyone wishing to volunteer should call the rectory.

The Christmas "Giving Tree" will be up soon and the idea of a book discussion group is still in the works.

Building and Grounds - reported by Becky McKinnon

Becky and John Boglitsch (and sometimes Andi) generally meet the Friday before the PC meeting.

Catholic Mutual went through and inspected the school and found only a few minor infractions. One classroom did not have the fire procedure posted and a paper cutter in the teacher's room did not have the safety guard on. Both have been taken care of and corrected.

A few of the things that John and his staff have been working on in addition to their regular duties include painting around the window of the rectory and repairing the wooden fence by the garage that someone drove into from the handicapped parking space. They are also in the process of finishing up the computer room, installing computers that were donated by MPS, and installing some additional outlets.

John reported future projects were discussed at the Finance Committee meeting. The tuck-pointing that was postponed this past summer will take place next summer. Landscaping will be completed next spring. A long-term project of replacing old floor tiles in about eight classrooms is being planned to take place in the next 2-3 years. This is an expensive project costing about \$40-\$50K. We will need to find ways to raise money for that project.

Festival - reported by Ann Dargis

Committee is comprised of Ann, her daughter Melissa, and her daughter's friend John. Information regarding a meeting scheduled for 10/18 will be published in the 10/16 church bulletin.

Parish Directory – reported by Father Spitz

The committee met last week and will meet again on 10/11 to plan logistics. Father stated it is well planned and the committee will be ready to schedule photo appointments as denoted in the 10/9 bulletin. Volunteers are needed after weekend masses on 10/15 & 10/16 to schedule appointments. Pictures will be taken in the east vestibule of church.

Fund Raising - reported by Ken O'Neill

Committee has not yet been established.

Finance - reported by Fred Kleczka & Fr. Spitz

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The financial software utilized by the parish is in need of an upgrade to "true" windows format. The manufacturer will no longer support the old version. The upgrade will be purchased this month, as the price will increase beginning in November. Father needs to re-write programs in the new version and hopes to begin utilizing it fully by next summer.

Extra software licenses are being purchased for the school.

A revised budget was distributed to PC members for review.

Usage of church envelopes for donating has gone down. Geri asked if the parish contacts members of the parish who don't use their envelopes to see if they've changed parishes; if there is a need we haven't met; if they are in need of a ride to mass, etcetera. Father stated that a hand-signed personal letter does go out to parishioners fitting that description. He stated about 2/3 respond to the letter. Father doesn't see a value in making contact via telephone due to many people screening their calls via caller ID or answering machines. Any parishioner with 3-years of "no response" are dropped from the parish roster. The cards inviting people to join the parish or to state their needs continue to be placed in the pews at intervals. Placing them and occasionally removing them, bring fresh perspective to their presence. Otherwise, people start seeing them so often they begin to ignore them. If a donation check is received, the address is recorded and notation made that this is a donation from a non-parishioner. If checks begin to be received regularly from an individual, they are contacted about joining the parish.

OTHER REPORTS

PC Constitution and Bylaws, Educating Council Members, and Revising as necessary.

~ PC Constitution Articles 4-6

Articles 4-6 were pretty straightforward. The only question that arose was from Steve. He asked why the youth members of the Council aren't counted towards a voting quorum. Father stated youth should count and notation was made to revise this area of the Constitution.

The Council was asked to review PC Constitution Articles 7-9 for discussion at the November meeting.

Trustees – NO REPORT

Pastor's - reported by Fr. Greg Spitz

The parish/school continues to struggle to get more people involved in all aspects of parish life, from worship and fundraising to general volunteerism. Father asked PC members to make it a priority to speak to parishioners they know and personally invite them to help in any area of their interest. Pleas for help are regularly published in the bulletins. It continues to be taxing on the core group of parishioners who help in so very many aspects of parish life. Many hands make light work," as the saying goes.

He asks that we strive to look positively towards the future and not dwell on problems.

Father is very impressed with the financial generosity of the parishioners in regards to the recent disasters around the world. He will continue to publish totals received in the bulletins.

Hospitality Sunday October 23, 2005

Next Meeting – November 14, 2005, 6:00 - 7:30pm

Next Meeting Opening Prayer Giver – Becky McKinnon

**Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Finger
Secretary
OLQP Parish Council**