

St. Joseph Parish Council
Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2008

The Parish Council of St. Joseph Church, Shelbyville, Indiana, met on January 22, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Religious Education Office. Members present were Tom Gruesser, Lisa Lewis, Carla Antle, Noell Krughoff, Rosemary Dan, Judy Boring, and Angela Gill. Curtis Davies was also present to give a presentation regarding the organ.

The meeting was opened with a prayer.

Curtis Davies was introduced and gave a presentation about the organ. He gave his credentials and stated that Father Don Quinn had asked him to evaluate the organ before he (Father) left. Curt explained that he is an engineer by profession and has played the pipe organ since he was fourteen. He trained as an organ technician during college and has consulted with about twelve different organ builders during his evaluation of the organ. He noted that the organ was purchased in 1912, and that it has aged gracefully but it has aged. Some work was done in 1978 and at that time the chest was electrified. He demonstrated the repairs that are needed through a series of photographs of the insides of the organ and behind the pipes. He noted that the organ has not been well maintained. Many of the notes simply will not play, some pieces are missing and some parts don't work due to damage. The electrical wiring is in dire need of an update. He gave a brief presentation of the different options and noted that they range from a basic set of repairs to a more or less full-blown restoration. He stated that his goal is to determine the best approach for the good of the organ and with the most value for the church. He asked that the parish council consider the formation of a committee who would take one year to form a recommendation. Upon acceptance of the recommendation, repairs could commence, and a celebration of the organ's 100th birthday could be celebrated in 2012 with the recommended repairs being completed. After his presentation, he left the meeting.

Parish Council discussed Curt's request for permission to form an organ committee. The council agreed that not only is the organ an important part of the mass, it is a huge piece of St. Joseph's heritage. They agreed to grant permission for the formation of an organ committee. Noell will call Curt and let him know.

The minutes from the December 18, 2007 meeting were read and approved.

The agenda for this meeting as reviewed and approved as corrected.

Lisa Lewis gave the stewardship committee report. She stated that she and Terri Mackey met with the members of the stewardship committee. They probably need more members and the parish council must support their efforts. During their meeting, they decided to go ahead and contact the chairs of the different festival committees to see if they will be willing to chair their committee again and to let them know they should go ahead and

start work. She also reported that one couple has volunteered to chair the festival, but that their offer to do so needs to be confirmed. Also, Leigh Ann Mills will locate the old stewardship surveys so that the committee can begin to compile a database.

Lisa also gave the planning committee report. Coffee and donuts will be hosted by the stewardship and planning committees the week-end of 2/2 after the masses. She noted that a catchy name, something better than “coffee and donuts,” would be nice. She reported that the planning committee will schedule coffee and donuts for the rest of the year, probably twice a month, more if possible.

The council discussed how the spring festival should be chaired. It was noted that it is a huge responsibility for just two people and that having a group of individuals working together as chairs would be preferable. This way, the workload could be more evenly distributed and if a member or two was unable to carry through, others would be there to pick up the work.

The purpose and agenda for the Parish Summit was discussed. Parish council agreed that one important topic will be to revisit the original goals of the last summit. Lisa will refine these since she was heavily involved. The other main topic will be to review the proposed liaison structure and how it can be used to open the lines of communication between parishioners, committees, and the parish council. It was noted that someone needs to handle the mailing, someone should be in charge of lunch and someone should be in charge of supplies.

To allow more time for planning, council agreed to change the date of the summit to March 15 and to change the date of the next council meeting to February 19. Lisa will invite the planning committee to the 2/19 meeting since they have hosted previous summits. They can help solidify the agenda.

Council decided that it would be best to ask for committee input prior to “permanently” establishing the liaison structure. Noell will type up a letter explaining the structure and how it can be used. The letter will include a survey for feedback and will also invite the committees to the summit. Council will have an opportunity to read a draft and make suggestions. Once that is complete, Angela will get the letters and surveys printed on parish letterhead and inform the council when they’re ready so that they can distribute the letters and surveys. They will do so as follows: Carla, Faith Formation and Youth Organizations; Lisa, Administration; Noell, Spiritual Life; Rosemary, Parish Life/Outreach; Judy, Adult Organizations; and Jen, St. Joseph School.

Council agreed to table the music ministry report.

It was noted that terms for council members were established at election time, but Angela missed it. They are as follows:

Judy Boring, one year
Lisa Lewis, one year

Angela Gill, two years
Jen Deicer, two years
Rosemary Dean, two years
Carla Antle, two years
Tom Gruesser, three years
Noell Krughoff, three years
Vernon Sharp, three years (Vernon has resigned but will be replaced at election time in 2008)

It was noted that terms end on June 30 and begin on July 1.

The meeting closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela K. Gill, Secretary