

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
JULY 16, 2007**

Fr. Bill Medley
Kevin Mieczkowski, Chairman
Barbara Albert
Erik Evans*
Rich Geoghegan
Kevin Nuss
Shannon Orton
Sandy Schardein
Joan Shaw
David Such
Rick Vurturo
Evelyn Becker, Secretary

Mary Ellen Leis
Karen Siladi
Tina LaTulippe, Business Manager
Michelle Schlaud, Service Committee
Bob Sugure, Formation
John Underwood, Youth Ministry
David Zorn, Liturgy & Music
Diane Geoghegan
George Merrifield
Sandy McNeil, Finance Comm.

*absent

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Kevin Mieczkowski at 7:02 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Led by Fr. Bill.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Everyone present introduced themselves, and new members Barbara Albert, Joan Shaw, and Rick Vurturo were welcomed. Outgoing members Mary Ellen Leis and Karen Siladi have completed their three year terms. Rich Geoghegan will serve another term.

Selection of Secretary: David Such made a motion that Evelyn Becker retains her position as secretary. Shannon Orton seconded the motion. The motion passed by consensus.

Election of Chairman: Sandy Schardein made a motion that Kevin Mieczkowski be chairman of the Parish Council for 2007-2008. The motion was seconded by Barbara Albert and passed by consensus.

Election of Co-Chairman: Kevin Mieczkowski made a motion that Shannon Orton be vice-chairman for the 2007-2008 year. This was seconded by Rich Geoghegan and passed by consensus.

BY-LAWS:

- Copies of the revised Parish Council by-laws were distributed and discussed.
- These by-laws call for consensus decision making.
- Some of the committees which were described in the by-laws are now led by staff.
- The question arises whether the staff should have a vote on the Council.
- Everyone is asked to read the by-laws and recommend changes that may be needed. E-mail your ideas to Rich Geoghegan at Geoghegan@insightbb.com. Rich will consolidate these and present them at the next meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS:

- Kevin would like the meetings to last 60 to 90 minutes.
- Members of the parish at large will be invited to attend the meetings.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Fr. Bill Medley

- The Core Committee for the merging of the parishes will have its first meeting on August 8. Four members of TOOL and four members of MGC will be involved. The members from TOOL are Kevin Mieczkowski, Jim Shields, Shannon Orton and one other to be named.
- My assumption is that one church identity will be created with two campuses, just as has been done with the school.
- There will be a new name for this church, with one parish council.
- The Building Committee will have representatives from TOOL, MGC and St. Mary's Academy.
- The new parish will build the school and lease it to St. Mary's Academy.
- The school, gymnasium, and Parish Center will be built first.
- Letters have been sent to 9 architects. They have to reply by August 1 with portfolios.
- They will be interviewed, and three or four will give an oral presentation. Hopefully one will be chosen by September.
- It is hoped that building can begin in the summer of 2008, with 12 to 16 months for construction.
- Appraisals have been made on TOOL's property for \$1.5 million and on MGC's property at \$2.5 million. Adding the \$723,000 MGC raised in a capital campaign in 2002, there are assets of \$4.7 million.
- Municipal bonds are being explored to build the school and gymnasium to get a better interest rate.
- Church services could be held in the gymnasium until the church is built.
- A study group will begin in the fall to decide what is needed in the new church.
- There will have to be a major capital campaign to build these facilities.
- There are 850 families in MGC and 326 in TOOL.
- The Feast of the Assumption will be celebrated at a 7 p.m. mass on Tuesday August 14 because Archbishop Kurtz will be installed on August 15.
- I will attend a conference on Church architecture and remodeling from August 1 – 4.
- I would like the Parish Council to consider meeting on another night of the week I begin my day off at 5 p.m. on Monday.
- I will e-mail days which would work for me to Kevin M. who will send them to the Parish Council members for feedback.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Youth Ministry: John Underwood reporting. Report attached.

- We are looking for a Confirmation Director which will be a paid position.
- We have three catechists for the Confirmation process. At least one more is needed.
- 30 to 35 high school students are expected to sign up for Confirmation this year.
- Two different proposals for Confirmation formats were distributed to Parish Council members. The catechists will meet on August 1 to decide which format they want.
- An announcement will be made about my leaving on July 29. We will try to hire someone in a paid position to keep the Youth Group going.

Liturgy & Music: David Zorn. Report attached.

Formation: Bob Sugrue. Report attached.

- It is essential that anyone who has contact with children in our programs attend the Honorary Safe Child environment training program.

25th Anniversary Committee: Charles Francesconi. Report attached.

- Parish Council members were asked to consider the questions the committee had submitted.
- It was suggested that Charlie write an announcement for the bulletin asking if the parishioners have suggestions for the celebration.
- It was also suggested that he contact Fr. Herb.

Finance Committee: Bill Ferko. Report attached.

The Parish Council:

- Kevin advised that the Parish Council is an advisory committee, making recommendations, not final decisions.
- He would like to have Town Hall meetings to get all parishioners involved.
- The staff will be invited to all PC meetings.
- If a Parish Council member would like something brought up at a meeting, he or she is asked to e-mail Kevin the week before to be placed on the agenda.

TOOL Picnic: Tina LaTulippe.

- There has been no response to the call for volunteers to run the annual picnic which is scheduled for August 5. If no one volunteers, the picnic will not be held.

Pictorial Directory: Tina LaTulippe.

- There were 43 sign-ups the first weekend to have pictures taken.

Service Committee: Michelle Schlaud.

- Michelle will take on the chairmanship of this committee. She received information on the workings of the committee this evening from Diane Geoghegan.

Closing Prayer: led by Fr. Bill.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 20, at 7 p.m.

Adjournment: 9:15 p.m.

Evelyn Becker
Secretary