

St. Teresa's Parish Council Minutes 6-28-06

Present: Patrick Buczek, Ed Buekers, Ralph Handley, Maria Hayes, Elmer Ottney, Holly Parzych, Jen Reichenberg, Jim Schneider, Sister Ruth Warejko, Msgr. Williamson and Barbara Burke. New Member: Richard Forrestel. Absent: Sheila Ernst.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by President Barbara Burke. The Opening Prayer was led by Ralph Handley.

Minutes of the May 24, 2006 meeting were approved. Note takers are Jen Reichenberg and Holly Parzych with Barb Burke preparing the minutes for the next meeting.

Msgr. Williamson introduced our new Parish Trustee, Richard Forrestel, who will also be a member of the Parish Council.

Old Business: Constitution & By-Laws List of Objectives and Goals was handed out and briefly discussed. Each member indicated a preliminary preference of wording for the objectives and goals which will be adopted in the fall.

Parish Picnic Update: The Salt & Light Core Group will assist parishioners who need transportation to the picnic. Nametags will be purchased by Barb Burke, who will sit at the raffle table printing tags. Parish council members were requested to move around and visit with people at the picnic. Jen Reichenberg suggested we should invite someone who doesn't usually come to the picnic. Pat Buczek suggested a Mass on the lawn. Jim Schneider suggested that we buy our own parish 10 x 20 tent. Msgr. Williamson and Jim will discuss this further. It was also suggested that a bright colored flyer could be mailed to all families in the parish. Jen will make a preliminary model. Msgr. Williamson welcomed any further suggestions until the end of July.

Welcoming Committee Update: No response to the ad in the bulletin. A more specific notice was recommended. Jen will discuss further with Msgr. Williamson.

New Business: Parish Ministries (Continued)—

Educational, Sacramental – Sister Ruth Warejko provided guidelines and statistical information regarding the Religious Education Program. The Diocese of Buffalo provides the Curriculum Guide. Although student attendance is high for classes, corresponding attendance at Mass is low. Preparation for Reconciliation

occurs during Second Grade, for First Communion during Third Grade and for Confirmation at the age of 15-17.

Liturgical, Catechetical, Sacramental – Msgr. Williamson briefly described the ministries that assist at Mass: Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Ushers and Choir. Currently, Msgr. Williamson [and Sister Ruth] compile the Prayers of the Faithful. He welcomed the idea of a Liturgical Committee as a Sub-Committee of the Parish Council. Adult Education and Instruction for adult converts are handled by Msgr. Williamson and Sister Ruth. It is hoped that an adult class can be held again in the fall. Baptisms involve meeting with the family individually to instruct and complete the Sacrament. **[Amended 9-27-06 to erase “and Sister Ruth” from compiling the prayers of the faithful]**

Financial – Trustee Ed Buekers reported on the first meeting of the Finance Committee on March 23, 2006. Members include: Dick Campbell, Mike Charles, Dick Forrestel and Doug Whelan. A recommendation was made to the Trustees concerning the proposed new heating and cooling system. As Chairman of the Catholic Charities Appeal each spring, Ed reported on the successful drive that was conducted this year. He reported on the financial status of the parish. On the third Sunday of each month a second collection will be held to contribute to the new heating and cooling system. Each Sunday there are volunteers who count the money collected at the Masses.

Ushers – Elmer Ottney reported on the latest meeting of the ushers held on June 21, 2006 to improve service and establish duties. There are presently 20 ushers, all men. Women are welcome to join. There is no dress code for ushers but a shirt and tie have been suggested. New signs request cell phone non-use during Mass. Bulletins should be distributed after Mass, not before.

New Business: Cluster Group Meeting – Next meeting is Thursday, July 6, 2006 in our parish hall. Visitors are welcome. Last weekend information was shared with the parishioners. No decisions have been made yet. The Diocese is requesting that resolutions be submitted.

Parish Council Next Meeting – Sept. 27, 2006 at 7:15 pm. Suggestions for topics to discuss at future meetings include— Parish Newsletter, Adult Education or Bible Study Groups, Youth, Buildings and Grounds, Liturgical Committee. Please send any suggestions you have to Barb at BossBurk@buffnet.net .

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.