

**St Nicholas Parish Council Meeting  
August 23, 2010**

**Staff Members Present:**

Ann Daniels, Business Manager                      Barb Furdek, Director, Religious Education

**Discerned Members Present:**

David Todd, President	John Laverdure	Mary Ann Williams
Jill Pietrusinski, Vice-President	Karyl Reckamp	Yolanda Wood
Sherri Galante	Joanne Smallheer	

**Others Present:**

Joe Edwards, Trustee                                      Carol Mauchline, Trustee

**Opening:** Jill Pietrusinski opened the meeting with prayer at 7:30 pm. The July 19, 2010 minutes and summary were approved as submitted.

**Parish Picnic:** Joanne Smallheer reported on the 28 August Parish Picnic plans. She sees no major problem in picnic preparations. Gary Mueller will pick up the barbeque grill and beer from Knights of Columbus. Set-up will start Saturday at 8:00 AM with tables and chairs set up outside. Terry Stein will place the inside tables. Joanne will pick up the food. There is a "picnic box" which contains utensils and aprons for the food workers. John Laverdure and Joanne will provide extra lights for outside. Joanne will check with Terry regarding extra electrical cords. Since the Parish Council members put on the picnic, Jill suggested that it would be nice to wear matching Parish Council shirts. While it is too late for that this year, it is something that might be done in the future. Parish Council members will wear name tags.

**Budget:** Ann Daniels presented the budget for the coming year. There will be an increase in some items such as salaries, maintenance, insurance, and utilities due to operation of the new buildings. Some maintenance that Ann knows will be water proofing the lighted signs outside the Church, repairing a leak in the steeple, tree removal in front of the Church; and funding a new part-time maintenance position. Ann gave explanations for any questions council members asked. The budget was unanimously approved.

**Spirituality Center and Activity Center:** Ann reported the building progress is going remarkably well. Ann chose not to close on the loan with Bank of O'Fallon, saving the parish about \$10,000+ from interest. Decisions are being made on items such as carpeting and other finishing selections. The carpet for the youth room will be carpet squares that are 100 percent solution dyed. Father Bill Hitpas, Barb Furdek, and Ed Koszykowski, along with their eight-member commission, are working on the programs to be conducted in the Spirituality Center. The core group working on the pre-school will meet with parents of small children on September 7.

Even though the construction's scheduled finished date is middle to late December, there will be a few jobs which journey-level craftsmen who are parishioners have volunteered to do. These jobs must be completed and the gathering area in the Spirituality Center must be furnished before we schedule the opening ceremony of the buildings. It is anticipated the opening would take place shortly after the holidays. The date will be scheduled as we approach the appropriate time.

**Welcome Night:** Joanne reported there were 61 new families registered into the Church since the last welcoming evening. Seven families attended on Friday night. One reason for the low attendance may have been the OTHS Blue & Gold Football game which would have also included band members and their families. There were also a baseball championship games being played in O'Fallon. Joanne has talked with Father Bill and Ann Daniels, and they are planning to revamp this important event. When new families register at the Church, Rita Kramkowski (Church Secretary) will give them the welcoming packet and will send their names to Joanne. When families register through the internet, Rita will forward that information to Joanne and Joanne will get the welcoming packets to them. Invitations will be sent to new members to attend an informal "coffee and Danish" brunch which would be held after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Youth Room. Father Bill will decide how often these will occur, but they will be no later than three months after the parishioner joins the Church.

**Miscellaneous Discussion:**

David shared with the council two thank you notes received from the two scholarship recipients for 2010. They were Brandon Daniels and Claire Distler. The cards were available for Parish Council members review.

David discussed if special council meetings should be scheduled in the future. He discussed several important issues upcoming to include the Pre-school program and St. Clare construction planning. If council members don't feel there is a requirement for special council meetings, they will not be scheduled.

While special council meetings scheduling was left open-ended, many council members thought it a good idea to "walk through" the Activity and Spirituality Centers to get a better idea of space and how programs might leverage these new facilities. In lieu of a special session, the council members decided to start the next Parish Council meeting on September 27, at 6:00 PM to walk through the construction area.

**Closing:** David led the council in prayer. The meeting closed at 9:05 pm. The next council meeting is scheduled for September 27 at 6:00 PM.

Respectively submitted for Council approval;  
EMMA JOHNSON, Recorder

Approved: September 27, 2010

*David F. Todd*

DAVID F. TODD, Parish Council President