

St Nicholas Parish Council Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2011

Staff Members Present:

Father William Hitpas, Pastor	Barb Furdek, Religious Education Director
Ann Daniels, Business Manager Coordinator	Ed Koszykowski, Parish Ministries

Discerned Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Carol Mauchline, Trustee	Joe Edwards, Trustee
John Coers-Finance Committee,	Jim Haider-Finance Committee
Scott Sorgea, St Clare School Building Expansion Committee	

Opening. At 7:30, Karyl Reckamp opened the council meeting with prayer. The February 28, 2011 minutes were revised, per request of Ann Daniels, and approved as amended.

St. Clare Catholic School Update. At the request of Jill Pietrusinski, we requested a report from St. Clare Catholic School regarding ongoing school programs, status of the current enrollment, principal hiring, and building committee planning. Ann Daniels contacted representatives from the St. Clare School Building Expansion Committee and Scott Sorgea discussed with the council actions being taken regarding the school expansion.

After a very lengthy discussion and many unanswered questions, the council decided to send a letter to the St. Clare Building Expansion Committee requesting additional information. As Parish Council President, David Todd will draft the letter, with the assistance of the Finance Committee and in coordination with the council, requesting a time line, feasibility study, and diocesan guidelines on the expansion project. Moreover, the council recommended holding periodic meeting with other representatives of the St. Clare, Corpus Christi and St. Nicholas Parish Councils and the St. Clare School Building Expansion Committee to enhance communications and provide the opportunity to review ongoing construction actions.

Ann Daniels raised to the council a request from the St. Clare Preschool for Saint Nicholas to install playground equipment at the St. Nicholas Center. The equipment would cost approximately \$18,000.00. St. Nicholas was under the assumption we would be hosting the preschool for a three year period and would bill accordingly for improvements for the preschool. However, hearing that timelines for the St. Clare School Building Expansion might be sooner, she raises the issue of how to bill for these improvements. The council decided to table the discussion until next month's meeting until we received better data from the building committee.

Good Shepherd Center and St. Nicholas Center Blessing. Ed Koszykowski discussed the planning for Bishop Braxton's blessing of the Good Shepherd Center and St. Nicholas Center on 3 April. Father Bill and David Todd will escort the Bishop through the buildings as he blesses each area. There will be a light reception of cookies and punch in the Good Shepherd center following the blessing of the buildings.

Mother's Day Roses. The church staff has contacted Matt Sebenoler and he will organize the sale of Roses on Mother's Day.

Church Directory. Joanne Smallheer advised the council that the Parish Directories are due to be

shipped on April 7th. Once the books have arrived and been proofed then a distribution date will be announced to the parish. The council consensus was to avoid distribution until after the busy Easter season.

“Fanning the Flame” Diocese Program. Fanning the Flame is a Diocesan wide anniversary journey of faith program (www.ftfdiobelle.org). It will begin on 15 January 2012 and run for 36 weeks. It consists of weekly chapters and is focused on deepening the Catholic faith through small Christian communities. Upon receiving this package from the Diocese, David Todd forwarded it to Father Bill for review. Father Bill stated the information has been turned over to the Good Shepherd Center planning committee for review with other ongoing programs.

April Parish Council Meeting Reschedule. The next scheduled Parish Council meeting had been scheduled for April 25th. However, confirmation is also scheduled at the time and the council decided to reschedule our meeting for Tuesday, April 26th at 7:30 PM.

Closing. Based on discussion at the last meeting, Jill Pietrusinski conferred with city officials that if the need should arise for a warming center in O’Fallon, the OTHS Milburn Campus is equipped to handle such an emergency. She also brought up that a parishioner mentioned to her a concern about our handicap parking spaces in front of the raised landscape areas where they must negotiate a curb if they use a space other than the end space. She also is concerned about the handicap door openers in the Good Shepherd center being far from the door. The church staff commented that the raised landscape area in front of the church was necessary for orderly traffic flow and that the doors are set to remain open an extraordinary amount of time to allow passage through them. The church staff believes they have done to provide a reasonable accommodation

David Todd closed the meeting at 9:35 PM with the closing prayer being offered by Father Bill. The next parish council meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2011 at 7:30 pm in the Good Shepherd Center.

Respectively submitted for Council approval;
Approved: April 26, 2011

David F. Todd

DAVID F. TODD, Parish Council President