

Minutes
Saint Michael Parish Council Meeting
August 13, 2009

St. Michael Parish Council met Thursday, August 13, 2009 in the St. Michael gym. Father Borowiak opened the meeting with a prayer. Kent Davenport, Evelyn Janousek, Pat Wagner, Carl Marks, Doug Curry, Kathy Rentschler, Bill Tomek, Steve Mainelli and Paula Fritz were in attendance.

Father reported that the Door-to-Door Census would be finishing up at the end of August, as the Sisters will be returning to other work. Almost every home in the parish received a visit by the Sisters. After discussion the council decided the two year project should be considered finished and not continued into next summer. It was agreed that it was a good effort and overall the Sisters were very well received. At the end of the month four adults will be received into the church, two other adults and two high school students will be confirmed and one marriage validated. It was recommended that a summary of the Sisters' home visits be written to be included in the parish's centennial records.

The dirt work at the building site has been completed. A street to the site is nearing completion and Father Borowiak asked the developer if the parish could celebrate Mass Saturday, September 12 at 9 a.m. on the building site. Bishop Bruskewitz will be the celebrant. Father hopes all parishioners will attend.

The next step in the construction project is drawing up a contract for the construction drawings. The building committee is working on that.

Father Borowiak and Nick Cusick met July 31 with Bishop Bruskewitz and the diocesan finance committee and presented projected parish financial pro formas for the parish's construction project. The diocesan finance committee said the diocese would loan St. Michael parish up to \$4.5 million at 4.5% for new construction. The professional fundraiser will be starting in late August and will be at the parish for three months. The fee for professional fundraiser will be \$81,000 for three months.

In planning the future school, Father Borowiak and Sister Mary Michael visited Benedictine College in Atchison Kansas. They had discussion with the president of the college about a possible partnership with the college in an effort to create a hiring incentive to recruit the brightest and best teachers from Benedictine's Teachers' College. The initiative would offer a scholarship to up to three Benedictine students in their junior year and the college would match the scholarship that Saint Michael would offer. The students/new teachers would then be asked to make at least a two year commitment to teach at St. Michael upon graduation.

Sister Mildred Busch, former principal at Cathedral Grade School, a Benedictine Sister, may be interested in working with the St. Michael faculty and staff in Faith development. Fr. Borowiak will visit Sacred Heart Monastery in mid-August to visit with her about this.

Father Borowiak purchased three bronze bells for Saint Michael from an Omaha church that closed recently.

Other items: Godparent couples have indicated an interest in asking the Godparent students to help fund raise for the new school. The young people who went to Australia raised a large amount of money, possibility some of those ideas could be used again. There was discussion about ushers, servers, and readers missing their assigned Masses. The summer has had a lot of no-shows. It was discussed that maybe the gift bearers should not be assigned ahead of time, that the ushers could select someone. Father will remind everyone that they need to find a substitute if they are unable to attend when scheduled.

Kathy Rentschler asked that the parish purchase a commercial vacuum cleaner for cleaning the church and parish hall. Father agreed that this was needed.

The ladies in charge of Matt Talbot meals have been having a difficult time getting people to bring food. It was suggest that someone ask for financial donations after Mass the weekends before our meals are served at Matt Talbot. Kathy Rentschler thanks everyone for their tremendous help in making the Ice Cream Social a huge success.