

Mary Our Queen - Parish Council Minutes September 21, 2010

In Attendance: Father Brenza, Kyle Ayer, Sheila Burbank, Audrey Corjulo, Dr. Carol Grant, Marty Jansen, Mitch Mazur, Phil Mazzatti, Ralph Nardi, Maryann Spagna, Robin Taillie, Jim Topper, Bruno Umbro, Mary Yuskis; invited representative: Nick Frega,

Not in Attendance: John Crowley, Vin Colonero

President Jim Topper called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Faith Sharing: Jim Topper

Minutes – Carol Grant made a motion to accept the minutes from the June meeting. Jim seconded the motion and the minutes were accepted.

Agenda Items:

Welcoming new members, Fr. Brenza and Jim welcomed the new members to the board, Mitch Mazur, Phil Mazzatti, Robin Taillie and Mary Yuskis, and thanked them for their willingness to support the mission of the board and parish.

Jim reviewed the mission and goals of the Parish Council with the entire board and expressed his desire that all members take an active role when able, so that projects and programs are successful, communication between the clergy and laity of the church is optimized and parishioners are adequately served. In addition, the board roster was circulated and the “faith sharing” schedule was determined.

OLD BUSINESS

Kyle updated the board on the painting project of the CCD center. During the month of August, 50 or so volunteer parishioners painted the classrooms and hallway of the center. The window blinds were cleaned and re-hung after removing the fabric panels which needed to be replaced. At this time, the blinds will hang as they are; a replacement or refurbishing decision will be made in the future.

Using the volunteers to complete this project saved more than \$8,000 over the professional quoted price. Specific volunteers, the youth ministry members and Marty Jansen, were thanked for their due diligence in completing the project. Father thanked Kyle for his expertise guidance with the project.

Summer activities including the parish picnic and Camp Sloper and VBS were very successful events.

Marty reported that the fall bar-b-que dinner of chicken and ribs netted \$700 toward the scholarship fund, and that the event is permanently moved to the fall due to the great turnout.

Kyle updated the board on the website changes. He will send the links of the new format to the board members. A few more meetings need to be scheduled before it goes live;

estimated time for going live is late fall. Any members wishing to become active with the website should see Kylie or Carol Grant.

Father updated the committee on the capital campaign. The balance as of September 20, 2010 was \$389,775.12. As is known, at least \$480,000 must be collected before ground breaking, per archdiocesan regulations. At this time, Father sees the construction starting immediately after the Easter Season.

Youth Ministry update was given by Jim Topper and Nick Frega.

The trip to Puerto Rico was very successful. A slide show and discussion was offered after the 9:30 mass on September 12th. Many youth shared their experiences with the parents and parishioners in attendance. A mission trip to Queens, NY was announced for the summer of 2011. There are 72 spaces available for the trip. The cost of next year's trip will be \$400 per participant.

Many youth ministry members helped out with the Vacation Bible School program and with the painting project.

A new feature introduced this year is "Service Saturdays" where each month, one Saturday, the youth ministry members will take on a project, either at the church or in the community. So far, they cleaned the stage, hall and all the fabric chairs in the hall.

The middle school youth ministry will kick off their year with a rally at camp sloper and a prayer service at the end of their day. This will be in October.

NEW BUSINESS

Carol Grant brought to the attention of the board an invitation to the Office of Catholic Social Justice Ministry. A dinner will be offered at the Aqua Turf Club on October 26th for anyone interested in getting involved with this ministry and representing our parish. The invitation was distributed.

A discussion took place about enhancing our bulletin and the other written information that is made available to our parishioners. Examples of other church's bulletins were made available. Kylie and Father discussed the need for our church to establish a logo for our parish, possibly introducing it through our bulletin and other media, (signs, letterhead, etc.)

Jim opened a discussion about the Thanksgiving and Christmas giving projects that our church participates in through the Southington Communities Services, (contact people are Janet Mellon and Kathy Reinhard). Jim received a note from Tim Johnson, stating he and his wife would not be able to head up the projects this year. The Taillie family will take over this responsibility and meet with Janet and Cathy to discuss a new procedure for 2010 holiday giving.

Marty Jansen commented on the new money collection procedure. According to a directive from the archdiocese, the monies collected in baskets should be transferred to a zipper-type closed bags before the gifts are brought to the altar or the sacristy. This is an attempt to eliminate the opportunity of monies being lost in the transfer. While some ushers were unclear of the reason for this change, Father made it clear it was a directive

for all parishes from the archdiocese.

Sheila Burbank discussed the Pro-Life "FORTY DAYS for LIFE" – September 22 to October 31

The Archdiocese of Hartford is actively participating in this national campaign. On the local level, members of Mary Our Queen Parish are asked to join other Catholic parishes of the area for a 24 hour Eucharistic Vigil at Saint Thomas Church Chapel at 99 Bristol Street on Wednesday, October 6, from 8:00 a.m. to October 7 at 8:00 a.m. On October 6, there will also be prayerful vigil at the abortion clinic, Hartford GYN Center from 6:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. – 12 hours of prayerful vigil. Sheila will speak at Masses on September 25th and 26th to explain this effort and recruit parishioners to sign up for one hour vigil shifts.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
Next meeting will be October 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Taillie, Secretary