

St. Bernard Catholic Church
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
11 January 2007

John Moorhouse opened the meeting 7:00 p.m.

Fr. David Reichling led us in prayer.

Attendees:	Brian Shea	Coreen Glen
Fr. David Reichling	Blake Jensen	Dave DeBats
John Moorhouse	Randy Heinz	Dan Gayvert
Patti Dunbar	Bruce Broswick	
Robin Bender	Mary Koelzer	Absent:
Mark Rheume	Tom Koelzer	Cathy Bealer
Dan O'Donnell	Jamie Gauer	Mandi Crable
Bob Murphy	Linda Lee	Roy Brown
Patricia Thomas	Harry Merchant	

The minutes of the 14 December 2006 meeting were approved to be placed online.

Committee Reports

Education

Children: Bob Murphy reported all is going well. There will be a retreat in February and Reconciliation in March. Bob is looking forward to retirement and has written a job description for his position and is hopeful his replacement will be hired in March.

Teens: There is a ski trip scheduled for the 4th through 6th grade students. An all-church's broom hockey tournament is scheduled for 26 January. Brian is trying to schedule a reservation for Legendary Lodge for ten of St. Bernard's high school students. 21 January the children will participate in a pro-life walk and then will go to St. Patrick's for adoration. This week former members of St. Bernard's youth groups who are now college students and in the work force will speak to the current youth group. Upcoming activities will be "Prayer Night," talks on spirituality, "Fear Factor Night," "Worship Night," "Dating Night," "Guinness World Record Night," "Mary Night" and "Pro-Life Night."

RCIA: No report

Adult Bible Study: Classes are well attended and the last class is scheduled for 21 March.

Billings Catholic Schools: 13 March is "Discovery Day." There are 119 pre-school students, 159 grade school students and 313 students at BCCHS. There will be an awards ceremony at St. Pius X on 24 March.

Parish Fun: Mandi reported the Christmas party went well and a luau is planned for this Saturday evening.

Liturgy

Worship: Decorating after Advent will be done this Saturday. The need for usher training was discussed since there was confusion as to what to do during the Christmas masses.

Music: The Christmas masses went well. There will be a children's mass 22 April at 1:00 p.m.

Social Justice

Parish Nursing:

Haiti: The Koelzer's showed a 10 minute video about the Haiti Outreach Mission. After discussion the council recommended we join the HOM and after one year we will evaluate

whether we are satisfied and wish to continue our membership. With membership in the HOM we will also have a member from St. Bernard's on their board. The Haiti Group will recommend the future board member for appointment by Fr. David.

Pro-Life: The weekend of 27-29 April Fr. Peter West, a representative from "Priests for Life," will celebrate weekend masses, lead a rosary at Planned Parenthood and a youth rally.

Interfaith Hospitality Network: The last time we hosted was the week before Christmas and the next time we will host will be in March.

St. Vincent de Paul Conference: The conference is meeting on the 1st and 3rd Mondays. Meeting attendance has been steady at 8 – 12 members. They have been performing home visits and have been quite helpful to the Charity Office staff downtown. SVDP Executive Director Harry Merchant wrote a letter to the editor of the Billings Gazette describing the services they provide and has received positive feedback from the public because of the letter. There is Ozanam Training scheduled for 24 February. It will be held at the downtown location.

Communications

Newsletter: The monthly newsletter has been discontinued because the editor, Ann Hindley, tired of trying to chase everyone down for information every month. She is still editing the Lent and Advent newsletters. The Lent newsletter is coming up and she needs everyone to submit something for the upcoming issue.

Web site: Randy has created the e-mail address discussed at the last council meeting, news@stbernardblgs.org, and has begun collecting addresses from parishioners.

Parish Groups

Council of Catholic Women: Coreen Glen reported the CCW are hosting a Bunko night and a "Religions of the World" Lent retreat. The Lent retreat will emphasize Islam. For Christmas the CCW assembled 160 stockings with toys and candy for St. Vincent de Paul, 40 for Angela's Piazza and 40 goody bags for SVDP. 20 January they will host a High Tea in the church basement. They are also working on assembling a parish history book with photos and anecdotal stories about the parish.

There will be a "Catholic Women's Day" at the state capitol in Helena. A state wide project is to build a free standing chapel for the State Hospital in Warm Springs.

The CCW also will be paying to have the church kitchen cleaned and painted.

Knights of Columbus: The sale of Christmas trees was successful as they sold out of trees for a \$4,000 profit. The pancake breakfast to promote FOCUS raised about \$1,000. There will be a KofC mass on 21 Jan at 9:00 a.m. There will be an exemplification for 1st, 2nd and 3rd degree on 3 February.

Finance Committee: There was full attendance at Christmas Masses. Donations are on the positive side because of the attendance at the Christmas masses.

New Business

None

Closing:

The next parish council meeting is scheduled for 8 February 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Patti Dunbar led us in closing prayer. The meeting closed at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Randy Heinz, SFO