

**St. Bernard Catholic Church
Parish Council Meeting Minutes
8 February 2007**

John Moorhouse opened the meeting 7:00 a.m.
Fr. David led the opening prayer.

Attendees:

John Moorhouse
Randy Heinz
Mandi Crable
Priscilla Moorhouse
Dan O'Donnell
Kevin Holland
David DeBatts
Harry Merchant
Mark Rheaume
Dr. David Reichling
Brian Shea

Bruce Broswick
Roy Brown
Coreen Glen

Absent:

Cathy Bealer
Dan Gayvert
Patti Dunbar
Robin Bender
Patricia Thomas
Blake Jensen

The minutes of the 11 January 2007 meeting were approved with one correction. Dan Gayvert was in attendance at the meeting.

Committee Reports

Education

Bob Murphy has written a job description for his position and there is an active search for his replacement. It is a paid position of 25 hours per week.

Children: Next month will be 1st Reconciliation. RCIC is going well.

Teens: Many activities have been planned and the number of teens attending each week has been steady. Normally the numbers of teens dip this time of year but that is not the case this year. The response of volunteers has been good this year also.

RCIA: All is well with RCIA. We will be putting up a bulletin board with the catechumens and candidates pictures soon for Lent. We will also be celebrating the Rite of Enrollment on the 25th at the 9:00 a.m. Mass and the Rite of Election with Fr. Jay Peterson at St. Pius X that afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Kris will have a notice in the bulletin and get a copy of the Rite of Enrollment to Fr. Dave to review next week.

Adult Bible Study: It is well attended and those who come participate and seem to enjoy the classes.

Catholic Schools: The 2007-2008 budget has been finalized and have received a positive opinion on the financial statement. Enrollment is up 40 to 50 students. There are about 1,050 students in the system. Full day Kindergarten is being studied. Sophomore retreat today and Juniors next week. Discovery Day is 13 March. Tuition will be going up and a graduated scale will be used. The school board will meet at St. Bernard's on 20 February at 5:00 p.m.

Parish Fun

The Winter Luau went well. There was a good turnout and everyone had fun. The cake and ice cream for the RCIA & RCIC people needs more volunteers as traditionally only five show up to help.

Liturgy

Worship: Blake and the committee are building a manual to give step-by-step instructions for all church seasons on how to decorate and other items of importance to the committee. Because of the strong smell of live Easter Lilies silk flowers are going to be used to replace some of the live ones. There was a discussion about praying the Rosary before or after Mass in May but no decision was made as to how to conduct it.

Music: No report

Social Justice

Parish Nursing: Cheryl Ikeda is organizing teams for the 13-14 July 2007 American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. The healing sacrament for the sick will be conducted this weekend at all Masses. Priscilla asks everyone to let Fr. Dave and herself know if parishioners are entering the hospital or ill.

Pro-Life: The pro-life weekend (27-29 Apr 2007) with Priests for Life is coming together. Fr. Peter West will be the spiritual leader for the weekend. There was discussion on how to involve non-Catholic pro-life people in the weekend. The main question was how to involve them without alienating them.

Interfaith Hospitality: 24-February – 2 March is our next week to host.

St. Vincent de Paul Conference: Home visits are going well. The charity budget will be increased to \$20K/month. The 28 January Appreciation Brunch was held in the basement and about 120 people attended.

Haiti: Patricia Thomas will be the parish representative on the Haiti Outreach Mission board of directors. A 4 – 11 May trip to Haiti is planned. Six of the group of 30 who are planning to go to Haiti are from St. Bernard's. The HOM film the parish council watched last month will be shown to parishioners at next weekend's Masses.

Communications

Newsletter: The Lent newsletter is finished and being reviewed.

Web site: The news@stbernardblgs.org address is up and running. Randy has begun collecting addresses but it has been slow. Randy will talk to Bitsy about getting the addresses already collected by the office and send an e-mail to them asking them if they wish to be included in any mailing from that address.

Parish Groups

Council of Catholic Women: They had a successful ladies tea. V.I.P. has been contracted by CCW to clean the parish kitchen on the 19th. They are donating to help build the chapel at the Montana Psychiatric Hospital. Rosaries will be donated to the female 1st Communicants. They will be offering at least two, possibly more, \$500 scholarships for female high school students. A retreat titled "Caring for Your Spiritual Self" will be held 3 March at St. Bernard's. Will host a volunteer appreciation dinner on 19 April for those who help with funeral dinners.

Knights of Columbus: Council #8345 will pay to have the ceiling in the chapel and above the front of the kitchen professionally cleaned.

Finance

No report.

New Business and Council Member Input

None

Closing:

Dan O'Donnell led the closing prayer. The meeting closed at 8:35 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted, Randy Heinz, SFO