

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Parish Council Minutes – April 26, 2010

In Attendance: Fr. Joe Witmer, Deacon Joe Pepoy, Margaret Clapp, Sr. Lu Haidnick, Barb Biben, Mary Hanna, Bill Curley, Joe Sontich, Jamie McGinnis, Dave Gram, Bob Kohn, Mary Hickey, Fr. Jino, Bobbie Wason

Fr. Joe opened gathering with prayer.

Meeting was called to order at 7:10pm.

Minutes of March, 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved with corrections.

Old Business:

* Preparation for Parish Council – Fr. Joe Fr. Joe reported that three nominations were received – three positions are needed, thus the three nominations will become council members and no parish wide vote will be necessary. Nominees will gather Monday, May 3rd for review of OLPH Council Bylaws and pictures will be taken at that time.

* Diocesan ‘Stewardship Tool Kit’ binder given to Fr. Joe with minimal explanation of contents. Invitation was extended to all council members to pursue contents at their convenience. Further discussion will follow at next council meeting.

* Discussion of outreach programs -Joe Sontich – no update at this time

* Website – continued discussion as to how to better utilize the website opportunity - need for accurate information. Registration forms, parish surveys, council minutes, commission events are all areas that can be included on the website.

* Update on parish computer program – learning continuing and staff continues to enter info to database. Request to go out to all commissions to gather information (phone #'s, email addresses, etc.) from all committee members.

New Business:

* Parish Council retreat will be held this year – June 26th, 9am-3pm. Further details tba.

* Suggestion was made to consider forming a stewardship committee in conjunction with the Diocesan stewardship initiative. Discussion tabled until council members have an opportunity to read through information in the DOY Stewardship ‘Tool Kit’ binder.

* Mary Hanna brought to the table a parishioners request to consider a ‘Memorial Garden’ on the parish grounds. Discussion followed and many questions led to request being tabled until further information gathered.

Commission Reports:

Administrative & Finance: Report provided by Jeff Filarski, Finance Commission Chair.

Education Formation: See enclosed report from Margaret Clapp

Parish & Family Life: Next activity is Saturday, May 8th – Ladies Day of Grace.

Social Concerns Commission: Mary Hickey reported that commission members are continuing efforts to collect food for Safer Futures.

Worship Commission: See enclosed report from Sr. Lu.

Youth Ministry: Jamie reported that Youth Retreat was held April 17th and 18th with 40 kids in attendance (not all Catholic) There will be a Retreat Reunion May 23rd. A farewell gathering will be held June 6th for all graduating members.

Knights of Columbus: Bob Kohn reported that the Knights will 'spearhead' the Parish Picnic to be held August 15th, 2010 and emphasized the invitation to all commissions and parish groups to sponsor events. Knights of Columbus will 'man' the Kettle Korn at St. Joseph School in Mantua on May 8th as well as 'working' the Aurora July 4th parade and fireworks.

Portage County Catholic Charities: Deb Marrow from DOY Catholic Charities spoke at all Masses and emphasized the appreciation and the continued need for participation to the Catholic Charities in the Diocese. Fr. Joe reported that OLPH is 1/3 way toward parish goal.

Staff Reports:

Fr. Joe: Lifetouch will be at OLPH to take pictures for new parish directory beginning August 11th through 14th. Suggestion was made to allow a group of parishioners to assist thus alleviating additional work for the parish staff. Discussion to be continued.

Sr. Lu: See report

Margaret Clapp: See report. Mac added that 'Dinner and Doctrine' will continue in the fall (Oct. Nov. Jan. '11 and Feb. '11) at the Rusty Nail. Cost \$25.00 – and she added that the evening's dinner and speaker is well worth attending.

Deacon Joe Pepoy: No report.

Fr. Jino: Fr. Jino extended a heartfelt 'Thank you to all'. Having arrived in the year 2004 and intending to stay through 2008 with his studies, the Kent State course on studies was more involved and kept him busy until this year. Having successfully completing his Doctorate, Fr. Jino will return to his native Uganda at the end of May where his bishop has Fr. Jino's new assignment. With great hopefulness, he will return in August to be able to 'walk across that stage to receive his diploma'.

(Side note*** Shipping of all Fr. Jino's books to his homeland, Uganda, would be a wonderful graduation gift!)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm

The next Parish Council meeting will be Monday, May 17, 2010 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbie Wason