

EPIPHANY PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

December 8, 2009 – 8:30 p.m. – Meeting Room

Members Present: Amy DeRaad, Mary Beth Ineson, Mike Kraft, Mike Lentz, Alan Savage, Steve Sorsen, Tim Sullivan, Emey Vaillancourt, Fr. Zehren, Mary Zielinski

Members Absent: Robert Breitbach, Bob Mueffelman

CHAIR'S REPORT:

- The minutes of the November meeting were approved as submitted.

REPORT ON THE STATE FAIR DINER:

Mike Lentz reported for the leadership team. The event ran very smoothly and the parish feels this event is important to our goals of community, stewardship and evangelization. Any financial gain is an additional bonus but not the main reason this event occurs.

The diner brought in \$162,535 revenue which is up from last year's amount. Expenses were \$133,484, leaving a profit of \$29,051. It was mentioned that our menu and concept are different from other food concessions and the amount of money we have paid out in upgrades and repairs have also affected the profit made.

He stated that Rhonda was saddened by the profit that was made on this event. The Committee worked very hard and had hoped for a better result. The Council was reminded of their commitment last year to continuing this event and they all wish to continue with this outreach.

The Parish Council wishes to extend their admiration for the hard work accomplished by Rhonda and Chuck Dillon, and express its gratitude and appreciation for their efforts.

SPRINGFEST COMMITTEE – Terri Phillippi

The committee continues to meet and discuss the vision for Springfest 2010 and what needs to happen to ensure its success. Security is their main concern and this is a very time consuming matter. The main discussion is delineating any changes that will discourage participation by people who want to cause trouble. Up to this point, there has not been a lot of expense for security coverage. However, that has changed and next year's event will carry a monetary cost for any security or police coverage.

The Committee has submitted some proposed changes and are looking for the support of the Parish Council before moving on to any decision making. They want to keep this

event for our Church community but want to shorten the time spent on the issue of security. These proposed changes are:

- Implement a cover charge on Saturday night beginning at 6:00 pm (\$5.00 for individual and \$10.00 for family).
- Continue the silent auction for 2010 with modifications to the hours and rules.
- Modify the evening hours, rides and activities.

The Council trusts the committee to make the necessary changes to make the event successful. The Council had a short debate on some possible changes and offers them to the Committee for their review.

- Possibly have a cover charge for both Friday and Saturday evening.
- Cut down on hours for Goldstar but continue Epiphany activities later.
- Consider member only participation
- Have security people split up and not stand around together. It might make them less obvious to the crowds.

OPERATIONS – Mike Kraft

They spent the time talking about an organization of different congregations that would house families in need for a brief time. The discussion was based on our involvement in such a plan and whether Epiphany is equipped to handle this need.

STEWARDSHIP – Mary Beth Ineson

They brainstormed on the vision of stewardship and what we want to do to accomplish it. The Committee has homework to accomplish dealing with the issues of what is working, what things we do not want to do as a stewardship parish and what needs improvement. There are 7 people trained to do data entry at this time. Mary Beth thought there were 500 to 600 ministry forms that have been returned. Fr. Zehren thought it might be up around 1000 now.

A big thank you and job well done was given to Susan Crook for the excellent Ministry Fair this year. The design looked great and everyone felt the event was wonderful.

PASTORAL CARE AND OUTREACH –

They looked at what worked well and what needs to improve next year for the Ministry Fair. They plan on compiling a list of groups who need volunteers and not list groups that do not have an immediate need for additional volunteers.

FINANCE – Alan Savage

The Committee had their first open mic session tonight. The rest of the time was spent on the following topics:

- A review of the parish audit. We are blessed to have in place a good process which shows we have a positive financial position. The main thrust at this time is segregation of duties. Some review of the Reiser Foundation and the gift store continue to insure we are moving in the right direction. Several recommendations for changes in the gift store focus on accountability. . It is important from a financial view to insure all areas have a check and balance system so no one person is put in the position of being solely responsibility. The purpose of an audit is to point out efficiencies and make any necessary changes. We are doing a very good job and are addressing any needed areas.
- They will share their discussion on the Ministry Fair with Susan Crook.
- They are evaluating adding to the envelope process. If there is no response in 2 years, a letter will be sent asking if they want to continue receiving envelopes. This could help reduce cost.
- Discussion on future avenues for the Reiser Foundation.
- Mike Lentz talked about a strategic planning process that would look at updating our mission statement and logo. There will be a task force of 5 to 7 people. Amy has agreed to work on this task force and they are looking at asking some of the people who were around when Fr. Reiser began the parish work.
- A valuable senior housing meeting occurred. The meeting provided an opportunity to increase communication and continue the development of a 5 to 10 year strategic process. There are space issues and they have a need for immediate memory care. They were going to change 5 or 6 apartments to meet this need but find they are at full capacity. The new thought is to add on to the existing space. There is a much better collaborative atmosphere and we will continue to meet every 6 months with them.

LITURGY – Amy DeRaad

The Committee spent some time on reviewing the Ministry Fair and any required follow-up. A good portion of the meeting focused on preparation for the Christmas Masses. There is a lot of coordination required, especially for the two 4:00 pm Masses.

COMMUNITY LIFE – Emey Vaillancourt

They looked at some questions that surfaced during a wrap up discussion on the Ministry Fair. The Cookie Exchange will take place tomorrow evening, December 9. Work has begun on an action plan for the coming year.

EDUCATION – Mary Zielinski

There were several items addressed during the meeting:

- Continued discussion on the Archdiocesan project – what programs we are missing and which ones need to be added.
- Follow-up on the Ministry Fair
- Summary on the accreditation (MNSAA) that was accomplished. The Committee acknowledged the many hours and excellent preparation that was accomplished by Ms. Carroll.
- The Parish Retreat is scheduled for Feb. 23 and 24.

NEXT MEETING – We will return to the regular schedule on January 12, beginning with dinner, then committee meetings and ending with Parish Council meeting at 8:30 pm.