

**SAINT AMBROSE
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
DATE: October 28, 2009
DRAFT**

Call to Order: Dave Urbanski, President

Prayer: Dave Urbanski, President

Roll Call/Visitors:

P/A

Roll Call/Visitors:	P/A	Visitors:
Tim Keenan (1 st Year)	P	Ron Luther
Dave Urbanski-President (3rd Year)	P	Debi Reinhart
Jim McCormick-School Commission	A	
Jeanette Burbank-Spiritual Life	A	
Joan/Leonard Elsner-Stewardship	P	
Cindi Dennis-Finance Council	P	
David Geis- Sec. /At-Large (2nd Year)	P	
Deb Bedwell- V.P./At-Large (3rd Year)	P	
Kitty Lewis-Community Life and Service	P	
Scott Lanam (1 st Year)	P	
Mark Nowling – Faith Formation	A	
Sharon Koch - At Large (1 st Year)	P	
Ernesto Enrlquez (2 nd Year)	A	
Fr. Scott Nobbe – Pastor	A	

Roll Call: Quorum present

Visitors: Ron Luther, Parishes Business Manager
Debi Reinhart

Minutes Approval: Motion made by Deb Bedwell, seconded by Cindi Dennis and carried to approve the minutes with amendments correcting the spelling Cindi Dennis' first name and Joan Elsner's first name; also correcting a \$ sign replacing a % sign in front of the amount of 7,800.00

Pastor's Comments: N/A due to absence

Commission Reports:

School Commission: No report given due to absence of Commission representative, Jim McCormick

Community Life & Service: Commission representative, Kitty Lewis reported on the mission and vision of this commission and noted the various ministries that are currently under the umbrella of the Community Life and Service Commission.

Kitty reported on the progress of the St. Ambrose 150th Anniversary Steering Committee, which most recently met October 8, 2009. The Archbishop was reported to be willing to preside at a kick-off Mass at Noon on June 27, 2010. Continued research is being done on the history of the parish in preparation. Kitty welcomed Debi Reinhart who is representing the Daughters of Isabella. Debi presented a sample Christmas ornament (keepsake) they would like to have manufactured to sell for \$10 each for the anniversary. D of I expects to make a profit of \$5 each, 50% of which would be used to defray the anniversary costs and 50% to be retained for charitable purposes of the D of I. Discussion centered around the ideas of selling these keepsake ornaments both within and outside of the parish. Motion was made by Joan Elsner, seconded by Debwell and carried to approve of the D of I selling these ornaments as above described.

An Advent Wreath family event is being coordinated for November 18, 2009 for up to 25 families to participate. More details will be provided later.

Kitty overviewed other planning activities discussed in their recent meeting and noted in the minutes of October 7, 2009

Spiritual Life Commission: No report was presented due to the absence of Commission representative Jeanette Burbank. Notes from this commission's recent meeting were submitted electronically and are available for review on the Parish web site.

Faith Formation: No report was presented due to the absence of Commission representative, Mark Nowling. A summary of this commission's meeting held September 8, 2009 is available on the Parish web site.

Stewardship Commission (Buildings and Grounds): Joan and Leonard Elsner reported on activities of this commission, stating it last met October 2, 2009. Joan reported good success with the Ministry Fair, describing new participation on several committees and ministries within the parish.

Joan spoke to about 70 children and a few parents recently on the importance of developing good giving habits (time, talent and treasure) early in life and that more envelopes were passed out at that meeting.

Plans for the forthcoming Archdiocesan Campaign were discussed.

A new Parish Directory is being planned for 2010.

The Stewardship Commission section has been added to the Parish web site.

Buildings and Grounds sub committee met on October 7, 2009 and discussed plans for remodeling the church rectory for greater office space and efficiency. Mr. Ward is now engaged in waterproofing the front of the church, staying ahead of the ongoing window restoration.

Elaine Nolan was recognized for donating materials and labor for refinishing 4 chairs used in the sanctuary.

An anonymous "angel" is credited for cleaning and organizing the church basement.

Spanish Ministry: No report was presented due to the absence of Commission representative Ernesto Enrlquez

Finance Council: Cindi Dennis reported on parish and school finances, presenting a condensed financial report of the Parish's balance sheet and statement of operations. She reported the alarming depletion of the parish's savings over the last five years due to budget shortfalls within the parish and its school ministry (excepting 2008/2009 school year). The concern is amplified in the current budget year (2009/2010) with the current projected shortfall in collections, down 23.8% to date. The parish-wide loss for the first three months of the fiscal year amounted to \$14,634. If the current collections variance from budget continues, the projected shortfall would be \$177,000.

Plans for a three part Stewardship speaking series on parish giving is planned, with the first presentation to occur November 3rd and running three consecutive weeks. It is hoped that this will alert the broader parish to the importance of stewardship commitment.

It was reported that Mr. Luther, Parish Business Manager is in the process of hiring a part time IT Support person to deal with IT issues and network the parish office, school other ministries.

Cindi noted a current fiscal year budgeting error related to the 150th anniversary celebration. The originally planned amount of \$2,250 was not placed into the budget as it should have been. She noted the Finance Council authorized the expenditure of up to this amount for planning purposes any way.

Old Business: No update was available for the proposed guidelines for a youth representative to serve on the Parish Council. It was recalled that Mark Nowling is leading this effort and will be looked to for a report and recommendations at a future meeting. This matter is to remain an open item under "Old Business".

(Dashboard Items)

Acceptance of the Parishes Vision Statement by Our Lady of Providence remains unresolved. No update received.

Parish Anniversary planning and reporting continues. A theme is being sought through a parish wide contest.

Guest Speaker series was discussed by President Urbanski with encouragement to Council members to bring ideas forward. Ideas offered included Bill Sciarra about video recoding of Masses for homebound; Deacon Mike about homebound outreach activities; wedding coordinator ministry of Bev Wolf; Information on the history of religious serving our parish.

New Business: None

Adjournment: Motion by Deb Bedwell, seconded by Sharon Koch and carried to adjourn the meeting

Closing prayer offered by Dave Urbanski

Respectfully submitted by

David Geis
Secretary