

PARISH COUNCIL - NEWMAN HALL MINUTES - MARCH 15, 2010, 7:30 PM to 9 PM

ATTENDANCE

Father Bernie Campbell, Deborah Tatto, David Hahn, Maureen Hartman, Rosemary Loughman, Richard Elliot, Luis Gachuz-Meza, James Donato, Eddy Crochetiere, Dora Henel

Opening Prayer (Luis)

OLD BUSINESS

The PHOTO BOARD of council members was put in place as well as the SUGGESTION BOX. Both were well received. Several Mass attendees submitted their suggestions.

LENTEN SPEAKERS SERIES had good attendance and comments.

ECOLOGY COMMITTEE met on Feb. 22 and Maureen reported to us their future projects, namely, the greening of the church environment, composting in the church kitchen, a vegetable garden on the church grounds and aid to an Indian group. Deborah contacted the Berkeley Ecology Center who are planning to run a one day workshop at Newman on Saturday, April 24 from 9:30AM to noon. People who deal with food at Newman will be invited as well as anyone else who is interested.

CHURCH DECORATION A plan for the location of paintings and other art works to enhance the interior of the church was on display for council members. There is a committee of four people led by Jean Hanson, an interior decorator, who have submitted the plan and will be following through with it.

NEW BUSINESS

Father Campbell said that on May 16 at a 10AM Mass Newman would be celebrating the 50th anniversary of Father Al Moser's ordination to the priesthood. A caterer is being lined up and about 400 people will be in attendance. More information will be available in future weeks.

Continued effort to make parishioners more welcome at Newman. There was discussion on how to respond to comments in the suggestion box. Ideas that were brought up included more small Christian communities and open house every six months with representatives from other ministries. The goal is to be more inclusive and more personal.

Discussion of Who Are We As A Council?

Our purpose is to take the pulse of the parish and respond to parish needs as we perceive them. The pastor counts on the council to act as a sounding board, to put forward ideas to make the parish more welcoming and to identify issues concerning staff, building, etc.

Father Bernie also put forward plan to hold a mission with the theme of reconciliation perhaps in September.

FUTURE BUSINESS

Next meeting- April 12, 2010

Discussion

Solar Panels for the church- Sun's Free Solar- website- sunsfreesolar.com

The stewardship committee- James Donato

More thoughts on the task of the council