

Newman Parish Council Meeting- November 9, 2010
Minutes of Meeting

Submitted by: Richard Elliott/ David Hahn

Present: Fr. B. Campbell, David Hahn, Michael King, Dora Henel, Rosemary Loughman, Richard Elliott, Joe Burns

Opening Prayer: Rosemary

The meeting began at 7:30 PM. Agenda information was distributed and new items were solicited. The meeting proceeded as follows:

Old Business

1. Newman Website update--

Strong interest was shown in moving forward with a newly formed site. Former council member, Dan Thomas, has been in contact and shown interest in assisting. Joe Burns had information as well. The following committee members were recommended: Fr. Bill Edens /several students, Joe Burns, John McChesney-young, Dan Thomas. David will contact John and Fr. Bill to determine their willingness to serve on the committee and then get back to Dan.

2. Ecology Group-- The worm composting project which was initiated last year is apparently without management right now. Maureen has been in contact with a student who might be able to help. David will contact both Deb Tatto (Ecology Group member) and Maureen to determine the next steps.

3. Small Groups -- One suggested focus is on the more effective involvement of the Student Population and Non-student parishioners. An email from Joe Daniels had useful suggestions and will be discussed further.

4. RE: Why decreasing attendance at Sunday liturgies -- Dora Henel shared some concerns of her Theology study group: a sense of departure from Vatican II message, women feel alienated, mismanagement of pedophilia issue, etc.

Pastors Update

1. Bernie spoke of the upcoming "Busy Persons Retreat" [Jan 24,25,26th]
2. A guest speaker, Peter Steinfelds, is scheduled to present at Newman on March 7th. on "What kind of Catholic Church do you want for the 21st Century?" The Paulist Fathers will also lead a reconciliation session at Newman in March.
3. Bernie shared with the Parish Council the fact that Newman is needing to develop a more sustainable source of funds for the Campus Ministry Program. Developing such a plan may cover a five-year span of time, perhaps involve the hiring of a

Development Director, one of whose responsibilities would be to build alumni support; and tapping into the services of the Petris Foundation, a consulting firm, that is assisting Paulist Campus Ministry programs in other parts of the country. <http://www.petris.org/funding.htm> .

4. A Volunteer Appreciation dinner is scheduled for the evening of Friday, November 19th. to honor members of the various ministries and long standing workers in the parish. PC members and their spouses/partners are encouraged to attend. The evening starts at 6:30 PM. with wine and cheese, followed by dinner at 7. Please RSVP bernard.campbell111@gmail.com

Advent Prayer Series

1. November 29th-- Yaggies Group
2. December 6th, --Nonviolent Peacemaking Group
3. December 13th-- Faith Formation team
4. The series is being developed around an overall theme, e.g., “Back to Basics: journeying with prayer through the Advent season”. Flyers will be available on the hospitality table and pulpit announcements made at all masses on the weekend of November 20/21. PC members are invited to sign up to do announcements.

Parish Council Photos to be updated ASAP.

Student Issues: Michael King drew attention to expressed concern of Student Ministry Team for better access to the Sacraments, specifically, daily masses and Reconciliation. Fr. B. responded that he was aware of this concern and would look into the matter.

New Business: A suggestion was made by Richard and David that the parish might look into a more compact and interesting Parish Directory. A sample from another parish was passed round.

The meeting ended at approximately 9:10 PM

The next meeting of the PC will be on Tuesday December 14th.