

St. Clare Parish Council Minutes
April 19, 2012

Council members present: Fr. Flanagan, Diane Zekind, Margie Stelzer, Julie LeBrun, Charles Homa, Jon Pryor, and Eileen Curran

- I. Opening prayer** – Margie
- II. Presentation** - Representatives from Cub Scout Pack 516 made a presentation of their charter from national headquarters to Fr. Flanagan. The pack leader expressed appreciation to the parish for allowing the scouts to meet in the Friendship Hall. He reported that 55 boys had participated in the scout program this year. Four of the Cub Scouts will be moving up to Boy Scouts. The final meeting in the FH will be on May 22nd and will resume again in August.
- III. Other Announcements:** Diane reported that she had received a letter of resignation from Jody Baumgardner due to health problems. On a happy note, Diane announced that John and Emily Roche became the proud parents of a baby girl.
- IV. March minutes** – Reviewed and approved. Fr. Flanagan reported that Bishop Gainer will be away on September 22, 2012, the tenth anniversary of the new St. Clare Church. However, Bishop Gainer will preside at the 7:00 P.M. Mass on August 11, 2012. This will be a celebration of both the Feast of St. Clare and the tenth anniversary of the new church.
- V. Schedule for Council Members at Mass**

April 22 – Julie
April 29 – Graduation/Youth Mass - Youth
May 6 – First Communion – Eileen
May 13 – Mothers Day – Margie
- VI. Pastor's Report**
 - a. Received good feedback about Holy Week and Confirmation services.
 - b. There is a need for follow-up on additional ministry training – Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors. Teri Thesing will be scheduling lectors; Father Flanagan to follow up with her. Ann Marie Stuber will schedule servers. Jon Pryor volunteered to schedule Eucharistic ministers once he is trained.
 - c. Father checked with the diocesan office and was given the go-ahead to do a St. Clare website. He will meet again soon with Ed Forester and

Donna Anderson. The site should be up and running in about three months. Father will also speak with John Roche about getting the council minutes posted online more promptly.

- d. Friendship Hall update: New outside doors have been installed on the north and south sides. The ramp concrete has been poured and the handrails should be done by Mothers Day. We are still looking for a workable solution to the key/lock problems.

VII. Old Business – Discussion of an annual spiritual retreat for the pastor had been tabled at a previous council meeting. Margie wished to raise the issue again. Father reported that he will be attending a retreat in July (with diocesan financial support) and will also take the opportunity to visit with his family. No further discussion was necessary.

VIII. Committee/Group reports

- a. Youth – Julie announced \$2300 in profits from the fish fries, including the special collection and donations. The Youth Advisory Board has not recently met. One or two youths have expressed an interest in attending the Christian Leadership conference. There will be a pancake breakfast in the FH this Sunday (April 22) to be used as a fund raiser for their participation. There will be a Graduation Mass on April 29th.
- b. Finance – no report – Need to set up a meeting in early May.
- c. Peace/Justice – On March 21st, Frank O’Connor, ECU Professor of Economics, presented the second part of his talk on economic justice and its relationship to Catholic social teaching. Margie noted that the session generated positive energy. She also reported that Sr. Helen Prejean was able to attend a pot luck supper here at St. Clare following the Berea College convocation. There were about 50 people at the supper with Sister.
- d. Music – No report. A survey about the music & liturgy will go out soon.
- e. Liturgy – Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month. Father stated that there have been 7-8 people in attendance at the meetings.
- f. Building/Maintenance – No meeting. Diane reported that Ken and Isidro checked the church roof and are doing some repairs. There has also been some recent work on light bulb replacements inside and

outside the church. Charlie reminded Jon about the necessity of completing the emergency exit maps.

- g. Hispanic Community – There has been better attendance since the change in Mass time.
- h. Newman Club – Monday Mass and Tuesday Catholic Chats will be ending soon for this school year.
- i. St. Clare Guild – Father and the council expressed their appreciation for the much needed improvements to the Friendship Hall: downstairs window, doors, awning, and ramp. A public expression of “thanks” to the guild members will be made at Mass.

IX. Other business – Father advised that we need to announce second collections a week in advance. There is a diocesan collection every 3rd Sunday of the month. For all of the months with a 5th Sunday, there will be a collection for the benefit of BURR.

X. New business

- a. New parish council members – It is time for election of new members. It is the consensus of current members that the number of council members should be 9. The 3-year term is ending for 3 members. Diane will contact Ed LaFontaine, Ben Wilcox, and Keith Gilbertson to ascertain whether they will be able to fulfill their terms due to their work schedules. Then, we will be able to determine how many new members are required. Charles will compose a posting for the bulletin seeking potential nominees. There were two people that previously expressed interest at the Ministry Fair.
- b. St. Clare Parish Council Constitution – Last revised in 1990, the Constitution is in need of updating. The main agenda for the next council meeting will be to re-draft the constitution. The meeting, on May 17th at 7:00 P.M., will be open to all interested parishioners. Jon will put an announcement in the bulletin.
- b. Offsite – Julie wants to start planning another parish offsite gathering. The last such gathering was August 7, 2011, for the purpose of gaining insight into the concerns and ideas of St. Clare parishioners. The follow-up meeting will help determine the accomplishments of the past year and where more action is needed. Margie and Eileen will assist with the planning. The proposed date is September 16th.

Council members have received comments about noisy children at Mass. There was no resolution of this issue at this time.

Julie will be speaking with the youth group about the yard sale and whether they would be willing to share a portion of the proceeds with a needy family.

XI. Closing prayer – Fr. Flanagan

Next meeting: May 17, 2012

Opening prayer: Margie

Minutes: Eileen

Closing prayer: Julie

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Curran