

**St. Clare Parish Council Minutes
November 29, 2012**

DRAFT-Final minutes will be posted after January 17, 2012 meeting.

- I. In Attendance: Fr. Michael, Gary Scarlett, Margie Stelzer, Tom Karasienski, Bob Rucker, Julie LeBrun, Charlie Homa, Elaine Bobzin
- II. Opening Prayer –Tom
- III. Review and Approve October Minutes: Fr. Michael will correct and upload minutes to website.
Edits include:
 5. a. John Roche reported that the *Our Lady of Guadalupe icon (not Hispanic community)* will go on tour house to house for a 9 week novena.
 5. c. Clarify that food bank is BURR food bank.
- IV. Cub Scout request for a flag pole in front of church
Representing his scout troop that meets at St. Clare fellowship hall, Gary presented a proposal for installation of a flagpole in front of the church so that the scouts could practice displaying of and caring for the United States flag.
Pros:
 - ◆ It would be a generous contribution from the scouts.
 - ◆ St. Clare could show its patriotism and support of military veterans.*Cons:*
 - ◆ Patriotism towards an individual country may not be an appropriate mission of a global church
 - ◆ Will there be a problem with separation of church and state?*Questions to take back to scout troop:*
 - ◆ What about on-going maintenance and care (who would daily raise and lower it, or pay for electricity if illuminating it if 24 hr. display).
 - ◆ Where would it go?
 - ◆ Who would build it?
- V. Host Schedule for Mass (*Fr. Michael will find hosts for T.B.A. slots*)
 - a. December 2: Bob
 - b. December 9: Tom
 - c. December 16: Margie
 - d. December 23: T.B.A.
 - e. December 24 (Christmas Eve): T.B.A.
 - f. December 30: Julie
 - g. January 6: Elaine
 - h. January 13: Tom
- VI. Pastor's Report
 - a. *Church Roof*: Repair completed with big thanks to Ken Stuber and Isidro Cadena. Isidro is compiling a written report illustrated with before and after pictures to post on website.
 - b. *Mary Statue*: Through the generous time and talent of Mary and Keith Johnson, the "Our Lady of the Highway" statue has been refurbished. Final stage is to install solar lights for nighttime illumination.
 - c. *The Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass Schedule*:

December 7th 5 p.m. (Mt. Vernon) 7 p.m. (St. Clare)

Dec 8th 9 a.m. (McKee)

d. *Advent & Christmas Plans and Events:*

- ◆ December 9th, 6:30 p.m. St. Nick's Party & mortgage retirement celebration
- ◆ December 11th, 7:00 p.m. Communal Reconciliation
- ◆ Dec. 23rd, 12:30 p.m. Decoration of the church after the Spanish mass.
- ◆ Christmas Eve, 8:00 p.m. No mention of the pageant yet. Julie will ask Teri Thesing about it.
- ◆ Christmas Day, 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare

e. *Website* <http://stclarebera.org/>

- ◆ Printable Calendar
- ◆ Can send reminders (i.e. to ministers for upcoming obligations to serve)
- ◆ On-line contribution. Can set up to be automatic weekly, monthly, etc.
- ◆ Blog for communicating about parish activities
- ◆ Easy access if you need to contact staff

f. *Ministry Fair:* We agreed that another Ministry Fair would be helpful. Fr. Michael will get some potential dates for spring and bring them to the next meeting.

g. *Lent & Easter:*

- ◆ Ash Wednesday: Feb 13th. Easter: March 31st.
- ◆ Living Stations of the Cross? Kim Murphy has done it in the past. Fr. Michael would support it if she cares to organize it again.

h. *Ideas for upcoming events:*

- ◆ Adult Education: Vatican II and the new Catechism. Sometime in March or later in yr.
- ◆ Parish Renewal or Mission. Possibly in lent or next fall

VII. Old Business

- a. *Recap of November Events-Memorial Mass on 1st Sunday in November:* Wasn't well attended and people weren't clear that it was a memorial for those who'd died this past year. The people who attended did find it a meaningful time of remembrance. Liturgy committee suggests that it be standardized to recur every 1st Sunday of November. Council concurred.

VIII. Committee/Group Reports

- a. *Youth:* Julie is over committed and will be asking parents of youth to take over lent fish fries and other fund raising for N.C.Y.C.
- b. *Finance* – We're in a shortfall. Contributions have dropped since mortgage paid. Committee will be generating quarterly, itemized reports available to the parish.
- c. *Peace/Justice* – Has not met.
- d. *Music* – No report
- e. *Liturgy* – Need new liaison person from PC
- f. *Building/Maintenance*– Council agreed to have Fellowship Hall floors professionally cleaned twice a year.
- g. *Hispanic Community*–No report.
- h. *Newman Club*–No report
- i. *St Clare Guild*–Will continue to meet on Tuesdays to make items that will be donated to charity.

IX. New Business

- a. *Long Term Facilities Planning* – New rectory?
Fr. Michael now spends \$400/month in travel. Fr. Michael suggests he rent a home in Berea and use money saved from travel to apply to rent. Council agreed. Fr. Michael will begin scouting rentals and come with a proposal next meeting.

b. *Leasing Solar Panels at the Berea Municipal Utilities Solar Farm:* Not enough information for council to make a decision at this time. Margie will gather more information from B.M.U., begin gathering input from other parishioners and present a report next meeting.

X. Closing prayer – Bob

Next meeting: January 17, 2013

Opening prayer: Julie

Minutes: No volunteer

Closing Prayer: Charlie

Respectfully Submitted by Margie Stelzer