

**St Michael Catholic Community  
Parish Council Minutes  
February 21, 2012**

**Present** - Fr. Mike, Virginia Chadwick, Keith McKenzie, Bob Murphy, Nancy Dillon, Sr. Arlene, Elvera Paul, Laurie Hall, Kim Kook, Debbie Olszewski, Sr. JoAnn Lucas, Deacon Larry

**Absent** – Fr. Tim, Phyllis Rizzi, Shane Smith

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Virginia

**Reading of the Mission Statement** - All

**Opening Prayer** – Elvera Paul

**Approval of Minutes** – January 17, 2012 minutes were approved

**Enrichment:** Various Commission representatives covered the highlights of Chapter 6 “Implementing the Vision of Parish Councils”

- Christian Education / Formation - Laurie
  - The Education Commission assists, promotes, and supports parishioners in the understanding that the entire parish community has the responsibility for participating in the evangelization and teaching mission of Jesus entrusted to the Church. Some key points included:
    - Ensuring compliance with Church educational directives
    - Supporting the continuing education and formation of all educational ministers.
    - Establishing and recommending objectives to the PC
    - Addressing education and formational needs in the areas of Adult Faith Formation, Catholic Schools, Family Ministry, Faith Formation / Catechetics, Vocations, Youth Ministry, and Campus / Young Adults
  - Noted that almost every aspect of life contains some opportunity for formation and learning.
- Worship - Laurie
  - The Worship Commission is responsible for guiding the continuing liturgical renewal of the parish, which is the communion centered on the Eucharist. Key points included:
    - Overseeing the continuing education and formation of the parish in liturgical matters
    - Discerning the parish’s worship / liturgical / prayer needs
    - Coordinating the preparation of the liturgical celebrations for all seasonal and special feasts

- Overall, the PC was very complimentary of the work done by Laurie and the Commission
- Christian Service – Sr. Arlene
  - The Christian Service Commission exists as a model and resource of Catholic social teaching to enable the entire parish communion to put the social teaching of the Church into action. Key points included:
    - The Commission covers a broad spectrum of activities and its' strength is responding in an organized way to societal and individual needs.
    - They are focused on the needs of the poor and the vulnerable
    - Provide support for existing social ministry programs to meet the needs of the parish and link with other groups whenever possible
- Stewardship – Sr. JoAnn
  - The Stewardship Commission is concerned with the promotion of Christian stewardship as a way of life and how living out our call to discipleship in service to the Church and her members provides a living example by which the spirit of evangelism is witnessed. Key points included:
    - Fostering a parish environment where stewardship is a way of life
    - Developing family finance study programs
    - Encouraging parishioners' endowment gifts
  - She noted that many people pitch in to get things done and stewardship seems to be ingrained in our parish
  - The Commission is responsible for all Parish fundraising including the CSA
  - Good mix of Staff and volunteers on the Commission with a good assortment of talents and skill sets
- The assignment for next month is to read Chapter 7 on the Parish Financial Council. Consider the recommendations and compare to what our Stewardship Commission has done and continues to do. The discussion will be lead by Sr. JoAnn and Fr. Mike.

### **Pastoral Team Reports**

- Fr. Mike: Comments were previously distributed by email to the Council. Primary topics included:
  - Fr. Tim is doing well and enjoying his time in the Philippines
  - Fr. Mike is juggling a busy schedule, but doing well
  - The AOD has formally accepted our proposal to become cluster partners with St. Ronald Parish. The definition of a cluster partner is as follows: "Parishes that cluster upon the reassignment, retirement, death of a pastor, or when any parish runs an operating deficit." He does not anticipate the need of the parishes to merge anytime soon, but we have the official green light to ramp up our collaboration efforts.
  - With the season of Lent upon us, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at SMCC on Monday March 12 at 11:00, St. Ronald on Tuesday March 13 at 10:00, St Ephrem on Tuesday March 27 at 7:00 and St. Louis on Monday April 2 at 7:00.

- There are a number of adult formation opportunities coming up. Dr. Mary Dumm will speak at St. Blase on the Catechism of the Catholic Church on Monday February 27 at 7:00. Fr. Jim Andrus will speak to us on the topic “How to Pray” at St. Michael on March 5 at 7:00. Sr. Helen Prejean, author of Dead Man Walking, will speak on her experiences of death row inmates at St. Blase on 14 March at 7:00, and I will be speaking on “Living Sacramentally” on 16 March at 7:00.
- Deacon Larry:
  - Commented on the low number of baptisms and weddings recently

### **Council Chairperson’s Report / Parishioners Viewpoint – Virginia**

- No VMEs received or negative feedback on CLT. Good job by Bob Campbell

### **Old Business**

- Parish Goal Setting – Virginia / Keith / All
  - Preliminary goals developed by the Goal Setting Subcommittee were presented to the PPC. After thoughtful discussion, the group agreed to adopt the following:
    - Identify the work of evangelization and integrate that work into the mission of the parish and ultimately the lives of the community.
    - Call all members of the parish community (i.e. families, youths, singles, seniors, divorcees, and widows/widowers) to a more active life in the Church.
    - Increase the participation of teens and young adults (20-35) in the life of the parish community
  - A key enabler for objectives to support these goals will be the utilization of technology to facilitate the work of evangelization and communication.
  - A timeline for this process was agreed such that the Commissions would review their objectives with the PC during May and June 2012
- Changing Lives Together Campaign – Fr. Mike
  - The program is launched and we are “doing it.”
  - A general discussion ensued about how the program is being received. Several of the comments will be addressed in future communications

### **New Business**

- Stewardship Commission Purpose and Function – Sr. JoAnn
  - Passed out and reviewed the “Fixed Asset Review and Five Year Plan”
  - Noted that we have identified needs, set priorities, and executed the plan supported by the contributions received from the CSA program.
  - The Commission continues to evaluate future needs and has established the following as priorities for 2012: landscaping and support for the Activity Center project
  - The Commission has also been recognized as a very effective model for this type of activity.

- Sister will come back at the next meeting and cover Section 7 on “Establishing the Parish Financial Council” with time allocated for discussion.

### **Commission Committee Reports**

- Vicariate Report – Phyllis (excused absent)
  - No report
- Stewardship – Sr. JoAnn
  - February 20, 2012 minutes distributed with PC Minutes
- Christian Service – Sr. Arlene
  - Minutes previously distributed
- Education
  - Next meeting scheduled for May
- Worship – Laurie
  - Next meeting scheduled for March
- Youth – Virginia
  - Youth Group won the Chili contest again

### **Roundtable**

- Keith commented on the Parish Pastoral Council “Movements in Emphasis Survey” that we took in January. Overall, it looks like we are generally to the right of the midpoint and making good progress on our journey.
- The census form was a good piece of work. Thanks to all who worked on it and especially Bob Murphy for supplying 3000 copies.
- Virginia emphasized the need for PC participation in activities and requested additional help for the Stations of the Cross on February 25.

### **Assessment – All**

- Good feedback. Group happy that we were able to agree on goals.

**Closing Prayer** – Elvera Paul

**Meeting Adjournment** – 9:12PM

**Next Meeting** – March 20, 2012

Respectfully submitted,

Keith McKenzie  
Secretary