
**CHURCH OF THE MADALENE
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
DATE OF MEETING: August 7, 2011**

Consisting of Four (4) pages

MEMBERS:

DEACON Robert DeWeese, Ex-officio
2011-12 Moira Aingell, Ex-officio, Women of the Madalene
4/13 Teresa Black, Member at Large and Council Chair 2011-12
4/12 Beverly Bryan, Member at Large
4/12 Kent Garrett, Member at Large
STAFF Becky Holder, Ex-officio, Director of Youth Formation
4/13 Patrick Lynch, Member at Large
4/13 Angela McKee, Member at Large
2011-12 Jimmy Nelson, Ex-officio, Men's Club
2011-12 Theresa Witcher, Ex-officio, Stewardship
4/12 Harold Kalich, Member at Large and Vice-Chair
4/14 Susan Sullivan- Steiner Member at Large and Secretary
4/14 Christine Rury Member at Large
XXXX VACANT, Ex-Officio, Finance Council Representative
PASTOR Fr. Bryan Brooks
STAFF Becky Grossman, Parish Life

In Attendance: Teresa Black, Beverly Bryan, Fr. Bryan Brooks, Deacon Robert DeWeese, Becky Holder, Harold Kalich, Angela McKee, Kent Garrett, Susie Sullivan-Steiner, Christine Rury, Becky Grossman, Theresa Witcher, Patrick Lynch, and Moira Aingell.

Absent: Jimmy Nelson

CALL TO ORDER: Teresa Black, Chairman, presided and called the meeting to order at 11:33 AM, on Sunday, August 7, 2011, in St. Francis Hall.

OPENING PRAYER: Fr. Bryan offered the opening prayer.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: The 5/22/2011 minutes are approved, with Theresa Witcher making the motion for approval, and Harold Kalich seconding the motion. All members approve.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Fr. Bryan presents the current financials (May and June) and fiscal year end June 30, 2011. He states the Parish financials appear to be in the negative. However after closer review it is noted that there was an actual overage compared to budget and therefore we are actually ahead. Weekly collections are about the same month to month compared over last 10 years. We are from an overall picture right on track. June Benton has already started working on the budget for 2012. Each department head turns their budgets in. We will get together as a council and iron out the budget. Youth program has budgeted money left over due to activities planned and no one shows up. This is slowly starting to turn around and pick up. Financial Minutes are approved by all.

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UPDATE OF PROPERTIES: Deacon Robert presents a status report. We'll be doing a roof repair on main building in the north/south hall. We'll have to remove some air conditioners in order to repair the roof and then replace. This project starts on Aug. 15. We have excellent maintenance air condition crew that keeps everything charged, cleaned and running properly – all of this is under a service/maintenance agreement. Property address of 2213 has a dependable occupant and is taking care of the property. Property address of 2219 is getting cleaned and ready to be leased as well. Appears that property address 2231 will be getting a new garage door, cleaned up and listed for lease. It was previously thought that the Parish might use one of the properties for the high school youth activities but it is not needed at this time. Property on corner is selling for \$179,000.00. Inquiry and discussion by the Council as to whether or not this would be something that the Parish would want to acquire for future parking space. Deacon Robert would like for us as a Council and as a Parish to start devising a plan on what we want to do with the properties we have acquired. How does the Parish want to utilize the properties? Do we want a community center, or do we want to go up and add some classrooms? Building the Future committee is encouraged to rally some troops and get going on a plan for our future growth/building. Right now, according to Fr. Bryan, we are busting at the seams as far as parking is concerned. There seems to be a consensus of the Council that a community center would be a great advantage for our Parish. We could maybe utilize some of the professionals (construction/architects) of our Parish to help formulate and present a plan to the Parish for a vote on use of the properties.

UPDATE – STRATEGIC PLAN: Reports are presented on the progress of the Strategic Plan's "thrusts" (committees) by representatives present:

1. **"Grow Your Faith"** - Becky Grossman reports there was not as much interest in Grow Your Faith after the 10AM Mass as anticipated. But, after the 8AM Mass, there has been a consistent number of attendants (12-16). The coordinators of "Grow Your Faith" intend to expand facilitators. Becky sent out a survey to about 40 people which revealed that there are several small faith groups currently active. Stewardship has offered Advent and Lent devotionals and small faith group activities. Regarding new translation of the Mass during Advent - we have the books and study cards for the pews. Deacon John Donnelley will be coming to the Parish to give presentation on the new Mass translations and other changes taking place at the start of Advent.

2. **"Lighten the Load"** - Theresa Witcher reports that the Committee is are still struggling to get potential families or persons with needs to reach out. It is still being reported that there are a lot of volunteers to help participate but not a lot of folks soliciting help. She mentioned that there might be the thought of a conflict or duplicative effort between "Lighten the Load" and Padre Pio but, both committees are serving different needs so realistically there is not really any conflict. Still the issue remains with matching potential recipients with services of volunteers. A work in progress to devise a plan on finding people that could use some help with a house project, yard work etc. It is thought that maybe we should consider looking outside the Parish and offer our services to the Tulsa community. It is also agreed that we need to be cautious in regards to confidentiality, pride, and humility. An idea is presented to offer helping those that are still able to help themselves but simply need some extra hands.

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3. **“Enhanced Technology”** - Teresa Black reports that a meeting with the technology committee took place a few weeks ago. Kent, Teresa, Susie and Christine were present. Noted that changes are being made to the website to refresh it as it is an on-going work-in-progress. Parishioners are starting to visit and use the website. Discussion about having youth activities as a focus on the home page as well as handing out the “Continuing the Vision” bookmarkers in order to further the Madalene Vision.

4. **“G-Launch”** - Becky Holder reports that VBS and Totus Tuus were both very successful. Our younger group is very cohesive and the parents are as well. There were several events held over the summer and there was good participation. Much help is still needed with the high school youth. Will be working on a plan to rally the troops. A list identifying our parishioners with high school youth will be generated and Teresa and Susie will help Becky put together an activity. Fr. Bryan suggests maybe reaching them with social media or text message. Plan will be to work on getting names and cell phone numbers of high school youth. There is definite Council agreement that we need to monitor our younger youth group and middle school group and assess how well they are plugged in to our youth program and that we continue to feed on that. Fr. Bryan states that many of our young people are interested in the “Latin” Mass; they are indicating that they feel more spiritually connected to it. They are also feeling a connection to their peers via youthful music at Mass. Overall consensus of the Committee is the need to continue to reach out to the high school youth and help them plug in to their faith and spirit. The thought and discussion is that perhaps a community center (using one of the Parish-owned houses) would be a jump start. Fr. Bryan submitted an idea that an advisory council amongst the high school youth would allow them to tell us what they want; let them make suggestions and allow them to bring their friends.

5. **“Building our Future”** - See Update of Properties report above.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fr. Bryan south the Council’s opinion regarding a request he received from a Parishioner’s family which suggested the Parish create an “adopt a student” to help aid a child in their financial ability to attend a private catholic school. It was discussed that the Parish currently subsidizes catholic education if we have Parishioners who would like their children to have a catholic education. The Council assumes this suggestion would be in addition to the program already in place. A conclusion to this request was not made due to the logistics of actually administering this Parish function. Fr. Bryan indicated he would further review and give some additional thought on this request.

The next item of new business dealt with Mass etiquette. Fr. Bryan advises the Council that there was a suggestion of sending out a gentle reminder on Mass etiquette by posting something in the bulletin, the website, etc. Some of the issues dealt with reminding parishioners not to chew gum, appropriate attire etc.

Fr. Bryan’s last item of new business was a proposal to change the Friday Holy Hour time from the current 6pm-7pm to an earlier hour of 5pm-6pm or perhaps 5:30pm-6:30pm. He will confirm that change and make the announcement soon. Deacon Robert put the proposal to the Holy Hour attendees this past Friday and they were in agreement.

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS INCLUDE:

- A. Stewardship Fair after all Masses - September 10 and 11
- B. Outreach Day – Saturday, October 8 beginning with 8am Mass
- C. Parish Picnic – Sunday, Oct 9, 2011

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Council is Sunday, September 18, 2011 at 11:30AM in the St. Francis Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Beverly Bryan and seconded by Kent Garrett. All agreed. The meeting concluded at 1:15PM.

Submitted by Susie Sullivan-Steiner, Secretary _____

Approved by Parish Council: September 18, 2011