

**St. Nicholas Catholic Church**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**March 22, 2011, 7:30 PM**

Members Present: Nate Clark, Mary Dougherty, Ann Rhomberg, Leonor Rojas, Susan Schaffrath, Gerry Smith, Fr. Bill Tkachuk

Members Absent: Karen Allen, Maureen Fenty, John Kelsh, Graziano Marcheschi

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**The meeting commenced at 7:35 PM.**

**Approval of Minutes:** The February minutes were presented and unanimously approved by the group.

**Fr. Bill's Comments and Discussion:**

1. Evanston 150: St Nicholas Parish is an Evanston 150 'partner' and as such has received a banner to display outside when significant planning activities/meetings occur in the upcoming months. Our banner will be displayed in accordance the timing of these activities/meetings around the city. Parishioners are encouraged to reflect on ways Evanston can commemorate the 150 years since its founding. As a parish we will hold an open meeting at some point and bring our ideas forward to the City planners.
2. Finance Council:
  - a. Efforts are being made to create a central parish fundraising group whose membership would represent the funding needs of the parish and collaborate with Pope John School and its efforts. The aim is to better establish fundraising targets and strategize timing of large fundraising events and other campaigns.
  - b. A Capital Campaign is being planned for 2012. We'll likely hire a consultant to begin working later this year and a public campaign will likely launch in Fall 2012 (in conjunction with our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration). In the meantime, we'll need to 'write our story' (a compelling story) which describes our many funding needs. Anyone who knows sales/marketing people to assist with the framing of our message is encouraged to contact a PPC member. Some funding needs include: Organ repair/rebuild, church floor repair, church bell restart, parking lot and tuck pointing issues.
  - c. We may have an opportunity to further educate parishioners on the ways they can support parish needs via bequests and other planned giving vehicles. Parish council will re-evaluate past efforts in this area and consider ways to expand.
3. Efforts will be made to gather alumni from St. Nick's, St. Mary's and Pope John XXIII schools as part of Pope John's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This will be a "break even" event in order to gather those who have a history with Catholic education in Evanston.

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4. The Carnival event was well attended and considered to be successful. Final tabulation of net revenue is not yet available. An ad hoc committee will gather in late April to begin planning for the 2012 parish social event/fundraiser. We need to continue discussion on timing of planning, strategies to increase revenue, new promotional/marketing ideas to encourage greater participation, etc.
5. The parish Diversity Committee is proposing a Diversity Dinner (potluck) for May 20<sup>th</sup>. The aim will be to encourage parishioners to host dinners in their homes with particular focus on encouraging diverse fellowship.
6. The Parish Picnic has been scheduled for Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, following a special afternoon picnic Mass at Lovelace Park. A St. Nicholas School class will be holding a class reunion on our campus that night, including a Mass at which one of their priest classmates will preside. Parishioners will be welcome to attend that Mass, but the official Saturday evening parish Mass will be the one at the picnic.
7. The PPC will begin discerning the membership of the 2011-2012 PPC over the next two months. A list of prospective new members contains individuals who have nominated themselves or who have been nominated by fellow parishioners or staff.

**Adjournment:**

Gerry Smith offered the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. (Opening Prayer: Mary; Closing Prayer: Leonor)

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**Names Suggested for 2011-2012 Parish Pastoral Council**

Greg	Allen
Susan	Allen
Gary	Anton
Kevin	Axe
Damian	Barta
Ampy	Basa
Jean	Brabeck
Theresa	Buckman-Gilbert
Jesus	Cordova
Jim	Croegaert
Helen	Crowley
Sandra	Davis
Marie	Doyle
Mike	Doyle
Patrick	Ecclesine
Debra	Evans
Julie	Ganey
Brad	Harbaugh
Sheila	Hebein
David	Hunt
Lynn	Jencks
Sini	Koshy-Huny
Mimi	Lature
Angel	Nobile
Jose	Patino
Betsy	Quinn
Sally	Ryan
Lois	Shuford
Maureen	Tarantello
Nick	Tarantello
Chris	Tirres
Dan	Vicencio
Jim	Vogel
Lizanne	Wilson-Hensley