

# St. Therese Parish Council

## Meeting held Feb. 24, 2009

**1. Opening Prayer** - was led by Fr. Bill.

**2. Attendance** -

Present were: Fr. Bill Hoffman, Carlos Herrera, Barb Miller, Richard Schreiter, Nancy Bourassa, Jeff Steward, Joni VandenHeuvel, Laura Biskupic.

Excused: Dcn. Patrick Whitcomb, Maria Patricia Huff, Freddy Orozco, Andy Somers.

Absent: Omar Chacon, Juan Huerta.

No rep at this time for Christian Formation or Stewardship.

**3. Approval of Agenda** - approved as published

**4. Approval of minutes** of January meeting - approved as published.

**5. Unfinished Business** -

**A. School building sale** - Fr. Bill.

Finance Committee will meet with the realtor this week. The economic situation is affecting us.

**B. New building plan** - Fr. Bill.

The architect continues to work on the plan. Had a meeting last week. By next week we should have finalized the plan and cost. Then on hold until the school building sells.

We have decided on the Morrison / Summer corner for the building (rather than Morrison & Wisconsin corner).

The 2 stained glass windows on the southwest side of the church will be moved to the new building.

**C. Warming shelter** - Nancy Bourassa / Michelle Malinski's note

Thanks all who volunteered. More food came than was expected. Some no-shows on the midnight - 4:00 supervisor shift. No serious problems. We are not scheduled again before it runs out in April. They are still looking for a permanent "Home".

**D. Mardi Gras celebration** - Fr. Bill

Preliminary results say we made about \$6,000 (last year approx. \$12,000). Problem with the band not showing up. The committee should meet again and evaluate. Chris Armstrong was commended for all her hard work.

Comment: was impressed on how it was set up. Seemed to go smoothly considering new location and theme.

## 6. New Business -

### A. *2009-2010 Budget* - Joni & Dick

Budget is not ready yet. Very challenging this year to get close to a balanced budget. High heating bills are also a problem. Discussing options, will meet again Thursday.

### B. *Lent/Easter*

Laura suggests a **Living Rosary** (paper handed out explaining this.) Would need 60 people, maybe tie into Wednesday Hispanic REP from 6-6:30. Wed., March 25 is the feast of the Annunciation, may be a good date.

We would need children and adults, each representing a bead on the rosary. Laura will follow up on that. Dcn. Patrick's REP program runs from 6:30-8:00 that night.

## 7. Pastor's Report - Fr. Bill

A. *Speaker Terry Thorne* - Open invitation to the Parish Council to come on Saturday, March 14 from 9-10:30 to a presentation in the Family Room by Terry Thorne, sponsored by our Vision In Action (VIA) committee. Terry is from Appleton Alliance church and will come and share welcoming ideas.

B. *ESTHER* - This Saturday is the annual Covenanting Breakfast with ESTHER, when all member renew their commitment. There will also be a speaker. This is held at First United Methodist Church, 325 E. Franklin, Appleton, for a cost of \$10 per ticket. Open, if anyone wants to come and see what ESTHER is and does.

## 8. Deacon's Report - none; Patrick is excused tonight

## 9. Committee Reports -

### A. *Vision In Action* -

The latest minutes were included in the packet. The new website is under construction:  
[www.communityofsttherese.org](http://www.communityofsttherese.org)

Barb will put this in the bulletin, and we will soon shut down the old site, and redirect anybody who goes there.

### B. *Worship Committee* - Jeff Steward

Celebration of the feast of Blessed Fr. Nieves on Saturday, March 7 at Monarch Gardens. \$10 per ticket for food, music (DJ) and drama (re-enactment of the life of Fr. Elias.)

Some discussion on the thought of switching the parish fundraiser to an event the Hispanics already celebrate/ support to get more involvement from them; possibly this feast, or the Patronal feast in Fall? Move the raffle, kids games, etc.

Lenten booklets are available in the back of church.

Question came up about the Bishop's Appeal, what is our goal this year? We only had a plea to support, but not a number given. Not sure about the answer to this; about \$14,000 in so far, normally our goal is about \$20,000.

**C. Hispanic Community** - Carlos Herrera

March 7th there will be a 5:30 mass for Fr. Elias feast day.

Stations in Spanish at 10:30 every Sunday. Live Stations (bi-lingual) will be held on Good Friday at noon, outside. Also Saturday before Mass they will have Stations, rather than the rosary, during Lent.

**D. Christian Service** - Nancy

Reports from the various groups were handed out tonight. No questions for Nancy.

**10. Finance** - Joni VandeHeuvel

Don't have all the figures in yet. Utilities are way above what was budgeted. Discussing options, will meet again Thursday.

**11. Chairperson's report** - Laura

Nothing to report.

**12. Open Discussion** -

Just that we should re-visit the parish fundraiser for next year.

**12. Next meeting** - March 24th.

**13. Next prayer leader** - Nancy Bourassa

**14. Adjournment** -

Meeting adjourned at 7:38

*Respectfully submitted*

*Ellen Vissers*