

**Divine Mercy Catholic Church**  
**Parish Council Meeting – August 7, 2007**  
**Minutes**  
**Approved September 4, 2007**

1. **Call to Order** – Pam Kennedy called the meeting to order.
2. **Introductions** – Introductions of all present and reflections of God's presence in our lives this summer.
3. **Opening prayer** – Fr. Michael Kaluza led the opening prayer

**4. Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Fr. Kevin, Fr. Michael, Lisa Sammon Roach; Doug Knutson, Karen Sommers, Lois Donahue Cleary, Patti Gartner, Larry Dozark, Christine Shaffer, Pam Kennedy, Bill Keilen, John Tobin, Marian Anderson, Fr. Thomas Joseph, Luke Marquarte  
**Absent:** Kerry McCarthy, James Curren, Julie Olson, Wayne O'Connor, Carolyn Heskett

(Due to the schedule with the city planning meeting we moved directly into the agenda items, see section 10 below.)

**5. Parishioner Comment**

Karen reported concern by some elderly members regarding the social aspect and the accessibility of the new church location. Bill advised that there is a committee reviewing the concerns and the current practice of parishioners driving the elderly to mass. Comment added regarding individuals who are very active in the church and currently are within walking distance.

**6. Council Expectations**

Pam reviewed the expectations of council.

**7. Updating Binders**

Christine passed out updated materials for tabs 1 and 2 of the binder. Some adjustments to the information was recorded and new handouts will be distributed at the September meeting. Advise Lisa of any additional updates to your personal information on the membership list.

**8. Consent Agenda Items**

Finance Committee – John Tobin reported that the budget is set, he complimented the Director of Business Administration for assuring the budget allocations are reviewed throughout the year for each of the ministries. John added that this was the first year in his work on the committee in which the budget presented more challenges for each ministry to reduce costs.

- Spiritfest is a large expenditure of the parish with income down in the previous year compared to what was budgeted.
- Endowment dollars allow the parish some flexibility by permitting the spending of the interest dollars. Certainly it is desirable not to exercise excessive use of spending of endowment funds, especially in excess of the \$35,000 budgeted.
- Year-end financials will be distributed to the parish in September.
- Question and comment on separating weekly collections for the operations of the church vs. capital campaigns devoted strictly to the new building project; the need to communicate the separation of the two donation buckets. Thus, whatever decision an individual made toward the new construction the message is not to stop weekly contributions.

**10. Agenda Items**

B. '07 – '08 Vision/Goals/Objectives

Fr. Kevin thanked all council members for their leadership and involvement in the Faribault Catholic community. Father commented on a very busy summer with activities such as, Steubenville, vacation bible school, etc. and is grateful for all the activities of the Catholic Community.

Additional comments to whom much has been given much will be required. Our Parish is very gifted and we're all doing a lot, at the same time there is a need to be attentive and continue moving forward for the future of our parish.

We need to be a community in faith so we move forward in faith. Father needs the assistance of the council members to move forward in faith.

1. **Stewardship** – asking us to attend Archdiocesan Stewardship Forum, September 22nd. Asking all parishioners to Take Ten each day in prayer.
2. **Catholic Faith Formation** – What does it mean to be disciples, growing in our faith. This will be our third year of hosting the Net Team in our committed to reaching out to our youth. Father commented on the importance of Catholic School as a gift and grace given to this nation. Catholic education has aided in moving the Church forward—it's success is part of our responsibility. We should be proud of Catholic schools in Faribault
3. **Council Constitution**—asking for 2 or 3 of us to be on a committee to review our constitution along with Fr. Thomas.
4. New Church construction – tentative ground breaking Sept 22nd. Father asked the council to have a spiritual focus while we move through this building process. “A venture in faith” combined with the celebration of our 160th Jubilee – a great way to celebrate

#### **C. Homework: '07 – '08 Vision/Goals/Objectives**

Pam asked the group to reflect over the next month on the four topics Fr. Kevin's reviewed, then we'll work to formulate our council goals

#### **D. Spiritfest**

Passed around sign-up for selling tickets at Spiritfest, three slots open.

#### **A. New Beginnings**

- Presentation to Archdiocesan Building Commission, the verbal feedback was very favorable, we are awaiting official comments.
- Planning Commission Meeting on August 7th in which Fr. Kevin and Lisa presented to the committee the first phase of the building project defining the land work for the plat and rezoning. Anticipated approval in August for ground breaking and blessing of land tentatively scheduled for the evening of September 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Capital Campaign celebration, Sunday, August 12th, all volunteers welcome.
- Finance Committee has sent out the RFPs to the lenders

**Closing Prayer** – The Mission Prayer was read.

**Next meeting is September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 in Tomlinson Center.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Shaffer, Vice Chair