

12/31/15

**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH  
WEST SIMSBURY, CT**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING DATE: 12/14/15**

On December 14, 2015, a regular meeting of the Parish Council was convened at 7:10PM in the Parish Library.

In attendance were the following members: Tom Clarke, Anne Connelly, Mike Coutinho, Judie McDonald, Jim Peters, Bill Tagliatela, Tom Tanski, Kate Stewart, and Fr. Michael Whyte. Amy Daniels, Eric Davis, Laura Doyle, and Nancy Taylor were absent.

At the request of Jim Peters, Fr. Michael began the meeting with an opening prayer.

Jim Peters asked that the Minutes of the November 9, 2015, meeting be accepted. A Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the Meeting Minutes.

**PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT**

In 2007, \$600,000 in savings was depleted. Today, there is \$800,000 in savings and a year's budget in reserve.

The Grand Annual collection is at \$110,000.

The audit has been completed.

**SANCTUARY RENOVATION UPDATE**

- The wrought iron railings will be installed in January
- The Beatitudes will be stenciled in January
- The Stations of the Cross will be installed this winter
- A stone façade around the entrance is being designed

**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER RESIGNATION**

Jim Peters reported that John McManus is relocating and therefore has resigned from the Parish Council. Parish Council members are to suggest nominations by January 5.

**PARISH DIRECTORY DISTRIBUTION**

Directories were distributed during weekend Masses and events. Parishioners will be contacted if not picked up.

**REBUILT UPDATE**

Jim Peters continued the discussion regarding implementing ministries.

### *INFORMATION MINISTRY*

There will be an information desk in the atrium where volunteers will answer commonly asked questions and direct parishioners to the website. Fact sheets will be devised for quick reference regarding sacraments, ministries of the altar, and Parish administration. Parish Council members have volunteered to create fact sheets for specific topics. Eventually, these reference guides will be available in the atrium and/or on the website.

Various options for sharing information were discussed.

- Frames will be installed in the atrium for interchangeable posters.
- A television may be displayed in the atrium for special appearances to drive parishioners to the website and provide or share new information.

### *OPERATIONS TEAM MINISTRY*

Fr. Michael asked Bill Tagliatela if he would accept the position as the head of the Operations Team Ministry, and Bill accepted. This ministry will help maintain the building and grounds.

### *TECH TEAM MINISTRY*

Fr. Michael asked Tom Tanski if he would accept the position as the head of the Tech Team Ministry, and Tom accepted. Tom will oversee the team that will manage the website, audio visual equipment, and any other technology at St. Catherine of Siena Parish.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Liturgy Committee and Fr. Michael will look at the traffic pattern of the distribution of Communion to alleviate congestion in front of the altar.

Fr. Michael ordered copies of Rediscover Jesus by Matthew Kelly to distribute to parishioners as a gift in December. This book focuses on the importance of attending Mass and having Christ in your life.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:43PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Stewart  
Parish Council Secretary