

## Holy Cross Parish Council Meeting January 25, 2012

**Members present:** Marcella Rockenbach, Kathy Bates, Hal Small, Fr. Jay, Steve Homiack, Carole Marti, James Van Coney. **Absent:** LeeAnn Balbirona, Juan Castillo, Deacon Joe Shriver

**Guests:** Mick Bates

The meeting opened at 7:00pm with prayer lead by Carole.

### **Road Improvement Update – Steve:**

Once we obtain the documents for approving the road design, we still will need clarification on when the clock starts ticking for starting the project and when it expires. At this point, we are only speculating on the time we have to complete the improvements, but expect to have a clear timeline from the DOT once all documents are approved.

### **Granite Falls Property Update – Fr Jay:**

- The pastor from the Baptist Church that is interested in the old church property in Granite Falls has indicated that he is waiting to hear back from his bank and hopes that is by the end of next week (approx Feb 3). Otherwise no new news on the church property.

### **Pastor Updates – Fr Jay:**

- The archbishop recently spoke to the state legislature in Olympia regarding the same sex marriage topic that is pending approval by the state legislature. There is likely to be a statewide referendum on this issue and more to come this summer.
- There is also legislation in Olympia that might require abortion coverage in health plans.
- Nationally, a new requirement is being made that would require health plans to provide sterilization, contraception, and the morning-after pill to clients. Churches would not be required to provide these items but Catholic institutions such as Providence Hospital would. National lobby groups are working hard to change this and there will be a lot of press and discussion over coming months.
- St Michaels is moving forward with a feasibility study for an upcoming capital campaign with a \$3M wish list. Improvements to be made could include installation of an elevator, sprinklers, parking lot improvements, etc. There will be a flyer in one of our upcoming bulletins to advertise an auction at St Michaels to support our shared school.
- Sergio is moving forward with his deacon studies and is scheduled for ordination later this year. He will provide 'reflections' at all masses the weekend of Feb 11 and 12. He is still working on his deaconate project and interviewing various parishioners.
- Father Jay and Steve and LeAnn Balbirona are working to find a replacement for the work LeAnn has been doing for the past several years as RE coordinator. So far they have not been able to identify one person who wants to take on the overall role, so they may split it between RE, Sacramental Prep, and VBS; it may require the eventual hiring of a part time person to be overall coordinator when it comes to paperwork, safe environment, forms, communication to parents, etc.
- The confirmation program may possibly be revamped in the Archdiocese; first look may be to include all 16 year olds regardless of grade; could even go down to ages 14 and 15. May know more this summer.

- Fr Jay and Steve are also looking for a replacement to coordinate RCIA in place of Carmella Barger; she is transitioning out of this role currently.

## **Ministry Reports**

### **Faith Formation – Marcella**

- Bible study continues to meet on Monday nights; 10-12 people attend on a regular basis.
- For the RCIA program, the Rite of Election is Wed Feb 29 at the Cathedral; we have 4 catechumans and 1 candidate in the parish.
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### **Youth Ministry – Carole**

- The middle school rally is scheduled for March 10.
- We have rescheduled our outing to Compline and Dicks Drive-In, originally set for Martin Luther King weekend, to President's Weekend. We have a calendar of activities we are keeping up for the youth and post it on facebook and email.
- We are gearing up for our annual high school retreat, this year it is March 24-26 at Camp Kiloqua. Our guest speaker this year will be Mark Shea – he is frequently on Catholic Radio 1050 AM.
- Planning for our mission trip is underway; currently we have 24 interested youth; 3 interested young adults, and 10 interested adults for the trip. Mission will be to Esperanza International in Tijuana again this year, July 13-22. The numbers we are looking at represents our largest mission group, and Jim Van Dyke and Norm Schille are having interested adults complete a survey as to their interests and compatibility with the trip.
- The annual mission trekker auction is scheduled for Sat May 12, and the kickoff meeting for this event is Feb 7.

### **Knights of Columbus – Hal**

- There was a regional meeting for Knights 2 weeks ago and the same sex marriage issue was also discussed there; the attendees received some guidelines on how to write to their state legislators on this issue.
- Working on an upcoming membership drive.
- Need to come up with a budget/spending plan approved by the council. Knights are discussing whether to have a tithing plan in place whereby they donate a percentage of their council's income to Outreach or the Parish perhaps each quarter.
- Friday Lenten dinners are coming up soon; Feb 24 is the first Friday in lent where dinner will be served.
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### **Outreach – Kathy**

- We came through Christmas with a very good stock of food thanks to the many donations we received over and above our food drive and monthly shopping; Cascade High School was a key in these donations.
- The Christmas gift and food basket process went very well this year.
- There is a new software update coming for the program used by Outreach; Kathy will start putting different volunteers from each shift through training to become familiar with it. Outreach implemented the use of QuickBooks in 2011 and now we have an update to this Green Apple Software which has been very useful in being able to track PSE, PUD, rent, and other types of services besides our groceries.
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### **Hispanic Ministry – Deacon Joe**

- No update available

**RE Update – LeAnn:**

- No update available

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 after closing prayer.

**Next meeting is on February 29, 2012, <sup>h</sup> at 7 pm in the Conference Room. Marcella will do the opening and closing prayer and Hal Small will provide a snack.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carole Marti