

**Ss. Simon & Jude Catholic Church  
Parish Council – Minutes – Meeting #7  
Thursday April 14, 2011  
7:45 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Fr. Oldani Hall**

Agenda Item	Notes	Follow Up
Open Meeting	Meeting opened at 7:56 p.m.	
1. Opening Prayer	The opening prayer was offered by Gwen Brooks.	Keep praying!
1. Roll Call	See the attendance list below.	
1. Approval of Minutes, February 2011	There were minor changes to the minutes. Alice Namovich moved to approve the minutes. Joann Vasley seconded the approval. Minutes were accepted by all present.	Robin Wagner will ask Cheryl Kaleniecki to post the minutes in the church gathering area.
1. Approval of Meeting Agenda	Gwen Brooks moved to approve the agenda. Larry Fabrey seconded the approval. Agenda was adopted by all present.	
1. Old Business	Parish Sign Update – Gwen Brooks reported that the Fr. Gerry and George Marvaso will be meeting with the City of Westland Zoning Board next Wednesday April 20 <sup>th</sup> to see if we can even have a sign on the parish grounds per the city zoning rules. A report will be given next month regarding the Zoning Board meeting.  “Together in Faith II” – Gwen Brooks reported the last meeting on April 5 <sup>th</sup> was not productive but anticipated the rotating seven person volunteer group from our Parish will be prepared for the next meeting on May 3 <sup>rd</sup> . They will have a report at the May Parish Council meeting.	Report expected next month on the Parish sign project.  Report expected next month on the “Together in Faith II” project.
1. New Business	Alice Namovich – Inquired about the collection for the International Red Cross in Japan. Concern expressed about the collection for Japan conflicting with the collection planned for Haiti. Alice also mentioned the Nor-Wayne Citizens Council community garden project. The cost for sponsoring a vegetable bed is \$175 per bed. The parish Youth Group and George Marvaso are both sponsoring beds. Sponsors were requested.  Chris Frizzell – Reported that the women’s hand dryer is not working properly. Robin Wagner concurred with Chris’ observation. Fr. Gerry stated this any other building repairs should be directed to the Parish Office staff.  The food and beverage preparations for the last Parish Council meeting, scheduled for May 19 <sup>th</sup> , were discussed. Gwen Brooks volunteered to be the interim secretary for this meeting.	If you would like to sponsor a Nor-Wayne community garden, see Alice Namovich.

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<p>1. Commission Reports</p>	<p>Christian Service – The semi-annual anointing services will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11 a.m. with lunch to follow.</p> <p>Only twenty two pints of blood was donated last Sunday. The mystery donor will be contacted to supply the balance needed.</p> <p>Education – The Q&amp;A evening with Bishop Gumbleton event was a success! Currently working on a survey of parish education needs to determine future programming. Confirmation is scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup> and First Communion is scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup>. The graduation mass date will be set for June 2011; the likely date is the second weekend of June.</p> <p>The RCIA dinner will be held on Monday April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Any parish member who has previously attended RCIA is welcome to participate.</p> <p>Worship –Doug Vega reported the reception honoring Alan Knight was a success and very much appreciated by Alan himself. Holy week events are set. The Worship Commission will meet during the summer to work on improvements to parish programming.</p> <p>Youth Report – Margaret Reyez reported that the Youth Group is working on the Nor-Wayne garden project. The ground breaking is 9 a.m. on Good Friday with planting beginning on Saturday. Confirmation and Youth groups will be traveling to St. Leo's for a service project. Six school age children and one infant will be baptized on Easter Sunday. Volunteers are needed to make stoles, or donate funds to help make stoles, for baptismal candidates. Youth Group will be very involved with Holy Week. With the generous support of George Marvaso the Youth Group will attend their "Fun Day" at the Electric Stick on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Youth Group is planning to sponsor a breakfast to raise money for Haiti, looking at a possible date in early May. Margaret expressed her appreciation for the efforts of her wonderful youth group members.</p> <p>Finance &amp; Administration – Discussed the sign update – see above. Also discussed how parishioners can get Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) service for weekly donation directly from their bank account; Gwen Brooks and Robin Wagner will work on this project. CSA started last week; reminder announcements will appear in the bulletin and announced at the end of mass this weekend.</p>	<p>Anointing Service will be held Tuesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11 a.m.</p> <p>RCIA dinner Monday April 25<sup>th</sup></p> <p>Confirmation: Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup></p> <p>First Communion: Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup>.</p>
<p>1. Vicariate Report</p>	<p>The Vicariate didn't meet this month, due to a change in vicar.</p>	

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1. Pastor's Comments	<p>Fr. Gerry commented on the "Changing Lives Together" fund raising program sponsored by the Archdiocese of Detroit. We will need volunteers to organize this fund raising program. Most of the program will occur between September and October 2011. Please refer individuals who you think would make excellent volunteers directly to Fr. Gerry.</p> <p>Fr. Gerry reminded the Parish Council of the need to build the depth of our Parish volunteer base. Doing so is critical to our ability to carry on the daily activities of the Parish in addition to those which support the Archdiocese of Detroit.</p> <p>Fr, Gerry reported there has been discussion among members of the Archdiocese of Detroit indicating the need to reduce the number of parishes to a total of 100 across the entire archdiocese. Even so, this may not still align the number of parishes with a declining number of diocesan priests at a time when order priests are also leaving the archdiocese.</p> <p>Fr. Gerry expressed his concern for the heavy work load of the volunteers in the parish and also expressed his thanks for the wonderful work happening around us. With holy week approaching he asked everyone to be mindful of their commitments and keep a balanced approach to the reason for this week: celebrating ours – and the Lord's - death and resurrection.</p>	Refer volunteers for the "Changing Lives Together" program to Fr. Gerry.
1. Closing Prayer	All present recited the "Our Father," "Hail Mary" and "Glory Be" plus a special petition for Ss. Simon & Jude to pray for us!	Keep praying!
<p><b>Future Agenda Items:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parish Council Elections</li> <li>• Review of Parish Operational Procedures</li> <li>• Official Parish Prayer</li> <li>• Welcome Committee (possibly part of a new Parish Life Committee?)</li> <li>• Young Adult Programming (possibly part of a new Parish Life Committee?) – follow up after the March 2010 Vicariate meeting</li> <li>• Annual calendar planning, including planning for Advent and Lent</li> <li>• Grounds clean up-date – Winter 2011</li> </ul>		

**PARISH COUNCIL STAFF:**

<i>Parish Council Staff</i>	<i>Staff Member</i>	√	<i>Term Expires</i>
Council Chairperson	Kathy Hansen	√	2011
Vice Chairperson	Gwen Brooks	√	2011
Secretary	Robin Wagner	√	2011
Pastor	Fr. Gerry Bechard	√	

**COMMISSION MEMBERS (1 year term; renewable for 1 year):**

<i>Commission</i>	<i>Chairperson</i>	√	<i>Term Expires</i>
Christian Service	Alice Namovich	√	2011
Education	Elaine Latarski	<i>ABS</i>	2011
Worship	Hank Johnson	<i>ABS</i>	2011
Youth	Matthew Hansen	√	2011
Finance & Administration	Gwen Brooks	√	2011
Vicariate Representative	Joanne Vasely	√	NA
Back-up Vicariate Representative	TBD		NA

**AT LARGE MEMBERS (3 year term; renewable after 3 years):**

<i>Member Name</i>	√	<i>Term Expires</i>
Larry Fabrey	√	2013
Patricia Cain	√	2013
OPEN SEAT – (formerly Livio T.)	<i>NA</i>	2013
Dawn Hallman	√	2012
Mickey Hansen	√	2012
Lydia Parmenter	<i>EX</i>	2012
Chris Frizzell	√	2011

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

<i>Parishioner Name</i>
Mary Ann Kocsis
Doug Vega
George Marvaso

Margaret Reyez