

St. Dominic Parish Council Meeting Minutes
January 13th, 2026 – 7:00pm
Cherry Street Annex Building

Attending: Father Jim, Lynette Eilermann, Chris Holthaus, Barb Koopmann, Tony Antonacci, Lisa Rivera, Steve Usselmann, Suann Fields, Maribeth Detmer, John Becker, Helen Essenpreis, Brian Albers, Jason Miller

Absent: Connie Robben

Call to Order: Lynette

Opening Prayer: Tony

Approval of January Meeting Minutes: Approved by Steve, seconded by Helen

Approval of February Agenda: Approved by Maribeth, seconded by John

ASA School Board member: Chris Frost

ASA School Board Report:

- A. Enrollment numbers same since December.
- B. Appreciate the maintenance council fixing the cafeteria roof right away.

Hispanic Ministry: No report

Old Business: None

New Business:

- A. Reviewed Constitution and by-laws. Will update the following: title to say Constitution “and By-Laws”; date; add reviewed and approved with date. Motion to approve with changes made by Steve, seconded by Jason.
- B. St. Dominic will reserve a table for 6 at the seminarian gala on 4/11/26 at Holy Trinity. Anyone wanting to participate should contact the parish office.

Committee Reports:

- A. Building and Maintenance: John reporting
 - 1. School roofs
 - Elementary roof was completed above the cafeteria only. Finance approved the expense for remainder of the roof.
 - Jr. High roof – wait until spring to access.
 - 2. Rectory
 - Quote received for roof. Holding off for now.
 - Need to set up a cleaning day for top floor.
 - 3. Fr. Jim’s house has been purchased. Currently painting and cleaning.
 - 4. Cafeteria
 - HVAC – install after roof replacement.
 - Freezer in kitchen is out, may need to purchase one.
 - Convection ovens are all working.
 - Kohrman Electric repaired the hood for the stove (exhaust fan).
 - A thermostat was replaced on the warmer. Currently trying to repair the fan.

5. Church doors – re-sealing will hopefully be scheduled for spring / summer. We may need to find a new vendor.
6. Church lighting - no information received. Would like this included in the capital campaign.
7. A bid was received to build a concrete parking lot with retention for the lot adjacent to Ace Hardware. Currently unfeasible. Still plan to ask City for a load of dirt for now.
8. Tree & Shrub trimming – maintenance work was completed at Prayer Garden; Jeff Tebbe contracted to remove the dead tree on the NE corner and trim another tree.
9. Prayer Garden pavers have been engraved.
10. Church restroom signs have been removed and new ones will be installed to indicate unisex.
11. Furnace in the maintenance shed needs repaired. If possible, we will wait until summer to look into.
12. Church piano and PA system - met with Duane Grapperhaus. Floor will need to be recessed, new carpeting will be needed in sanctuary, along with and then new mics. Getting estimates on floor. There are problems with our current piano.

B. Liturgy/Stewardship: Helen reporting

1. Planning another Alter server training and working on a weekly notification system.
2. Vacation Bible School is a possibility if youth ministry takes the project on.
3. Cantors will start mass with an introduction & welcome. Mass will have themes and the songs at each mass will help with the theme.
4. There are a few kids bringing up donations for the basket. The money collected goes to the Snack Pak program. A basket will be placed in back for children to put in any good deeds they have done.
5. Stations of the cross will be offered on Wednesdays at 2:00pm and Friday at 7:00pm. Once again, different groups will lead them on Fridays. YFF is looking at doing Stations on a Wednesday evening. It will be posted in the bulletin. The statues will not be covered this year during Lent.
6. We will be learning new songs from Breaking Bread.
7. Children's masses have been scheduled through May.
8. The Stewardship dates are set. There was a discussion of combining Liturgy & Spiritual Formation. No decision was made at this time.
9. Church will be open 7:00am-3:00pm for those wanting to spend time in prayer.
10. Working on date for Surrender Adoration.
11. There will be no Wednesday evening masses during Lent.

C. Finance: Chris reporting

1. Approvals to fix cafeteria roof and remainder of roof. Helen checking to see if we can make an insurance claim on the cafeteria roof.
2. Men's sodality made a donation to the building fund.
3. We received a substantial donation from an anonymous donor to kick off the capital campaign.

D. Spiritual Formation: Helen reporting

1. Youth ministry submitted a monthly activity summary. As a subgroup of St. Dominic Parish, they will be asked to complete a financial report at the end of the fiscal year, and this will be presented to the Finance Council.
2. Father Jim, Maribeth Hodapp, and Helen Essenpreis are planning a trip to our sister parish this summer.

3. Will begin sending parents of newly baptized children a quarterly newsletter and plan a reception at the end of the year.
 4. Craig Loddeke is asking about forming an Ecumenical Ministerial Alliance for the churches in Clinton County. This would include quarterly events.
 5. Three events for women are upcoming during Lent. More information will be in the bulletin.
- E. Community/Welcoming: Lynette reporting (this is updated)
1. No new parishioners in January.
 2. Sent out 2 baptism cards and 3 sympathy cards. One anniversary card and gold rosary were delivered to Richard & Sheila Beckmann for 50th wedding anniversary.
 3. Purchased marriage prayer cards for 2/14/26 wedding anniversary mass
 4. Allison Cowgill is stepping down as parish lead for pro-life. Committee will assume responsibility for May Roses for Life and October Playpen for Donations.
 5. Next committee event is Rice Bowls in Lent.
- F. Media: Lisa reporting
1. Social media for chicken dinner is out.
 2. Working on media for Golden Egg and Picnic.
- G. Fundraising: Lynette reporting
1. Golden Egg tickets should be ready very soon.
 2. Conducted the first Capital Campaign meeting. The next one will be next month before Parish Council meeting.
- H. St. Joseph's Men's Sodality: John
1. We are preparing for the spring chicken dinner on 3/8/26. We are adding hand breaded chicken tenders as an option this year. Please look for Signup Genius and volunteer for a shift. We ran out of desserts at the last dinner so please make desserts to support the dinner.
- I. St. Dominic Altar Sodality: Maribeth reporting
1. Could use more help quilting.
 2. Next meeting is 3/2/26, 7:00pm.
- J. Office Manager: Going to start using Ministry Scheduler Pro. Helen and John are training on the use of it now.
- K. Father Jim:
1. Looking forward to the capital campaign. This helps build up the parish by getting parishioners involved.
 2. We have 3 people joining the parish. Two will be catechumens and baptized on Easter, along with 1 who will be received into full communion.
 3. MD Dinner Auction is 3/21/26. Father plans to offer a shrimp boil for the auction, as well as a tail gate party for the first MD football game.
 4. Once father moves, the living room of the rectory will become father's office. The dining room would be available as a meeting area.

Correspondence

- A. Upcoming Events

- a. 2/18/26 - Ash Wednesday
- b. 3/2/26 – Ladies sodality meeting 7:00pm
- c. 3/5/26 - Picnic Meeting, 7:00pm, KC Hall
- d. 3/8/26 – Chicken dinner

B. Good of the Order: None

Future Business:

- A. Next Parish Council Meeting is Tuesday, March 10th at 7:00pm in Annex Building. (Capital Campaign at 6:00pm)

Motion to adjourn by Barb and seconded by Helen

Closing Prayer – Tony Antonacci

Minutes Submitted by Barb