

St. Dominic Parish Council Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026 – 7:00pm
Cherry Street Annex Building

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

Absent: Lisa Rivera

Call to Order: Lynette

Opening Prayer: John Becker

Approval of February Meeting Minutes: Approved by Maribeth Detmer, seconded by John Becker

Approval of March Agenda: Approved by Steve Usselmann, seconded by Jason Miller

ASA Advisory Council member: None

ASA Advisory Council Report:

- A. Principals are currently teaching religion to the Jr. High.

Hispanic Ministry:

- A. One person from the Hispanic community participating in OCIA.
- B. Mass attendance has remained steady despite the fear and uncertainty that many are experiencing related to immigration concerns.
- C. Preparing for the celebration of Holy Week.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- A. Parish Council representatives will do Stations of the Cross this Friday, 3/13/26.
- B. St. Dominic Picnic – New this year will be Dominic Days. Friday night will be food trucks, no parish volunteers needed. However, Parish Council is asked to assist with selling drinks. If available, please let Lynette know. Saturday will be normal, with all hands on deck.

Committee Reports:

- A. Building and Maintenance: John reporting
 1. School Roof
 - Bid received from Joiner for the remainder of the elementary building.
 2. Cafeteria
 - Exhaust fan repaired by Kohrmann Electric.
 - HVAC on hold until capital campaign is completed.
 3. Kitchen freezer stopped working. Men's Sodality will be asked to replace.
 4. Rectory
 - Third floor will be cleared out as time permits.
 5. Fr. Jim's house is ready to move in.
 6. Church
 - AJLIX provided a bid for outside lighting on the steeple and lighting upgrades inside the church. Additional clarification is needed on the bid components.

- Received dirt from the City of Breese. Dirt from the MD field house project may also be available. This will be utilized for filling holes on the picnic field, as well as the field across from Ace.
 - New unisex restroom signs were installed.
 - Planning to replace the 3 toilets in church. Ladies Sodality will be asked to purchase.
 - Piano and PA system – Dave Wessling will complete carpentry work as needed after Easter. No plans to immediately change the carpet or sound system. The Baby Grand piano will be delivered April 14th.
 - Church doors – re-sealing was not completed as planned; it will be rescheduled for the spring. A maintenance contract is not available. Annual inspections and treatments will be needed.
 - Replaced fluorescent lights with LED's on the signs in the stone wall.
7. The tree on the NE corner of the playground was removed by Tebbe Tree Service. Stump removal is forthcoming.

B. Liturgy/Stewardship: Helen reporting

1. Altar Server training – will offer to ASA students on a school day and YFF on a Wednesday evening. YFF will likely be at the beginning of the next school year.
2. Vacation Bible School – consider Youth Group offering.
3. Feast of St. Joseph – will have recognition on his altar on the feast day and Friday.
4. Chrism Mass is March 31st – will have ASA students receive the holy oils.
5. Plans are made for Holy Week: Palm Sunday – procession from Prayer Garden on Sunday; Holy Thursday at 7:30pm; Tenebrae at 10:00pm; morning prayer at 8:00am on Good Friday; Good Friday service at 1:30pm; Saturday morning prayer at 8:00am; and Vigil Mass at 7:30pm. Easter Mass will be at 10:00am.
6. Discussion about what stewardship should look like – do we continue as we have done in the past? Need someone to take the lead.
7. Have Ministry Pro-Scheduler, John and Helen are learning the system.
8. Children's Masses continue monthly. The 4:00pm mass on picnic will be a children's mass.
9. Date for First Communion – April 12th and Confirmation – May 6th.
10. Mother's Day will have blessing of mothers and pro-life roses.
11. Graduation Mass – May 18th.

C. Finance: Chris reporting

1. Met with ASA finance to update some financial processes. Reviewing parent contribution as well as maintenance and capital expenses.

D. Spiritual Formation: Helen reporting

1. Mark and Allison Cowgill are stepping down from pro-life. The Welcoming Committee will assume the pro-life roses, as well as the baby donation crib in October.
2. Prayer for Life is April 16th. Connie and Lynette will coordinate picking roses up.
3. Diocese needs a representative listed. We will try to recruit through the bulletin.

E. Community/Welcoming: Lynette reporting

1. No new parishioners in February.
2. Sent out 3 baptism cards, 1 sympathy card, and 3 anniversary cards.
3. Next committee event is the Roses for Life in May.

F. Media: Helen reporting

1. Installed cabling to connect new color printer to rectory network.
2. Installed new high-speed Wi-Fi access point to 2nd floor hallway.
3. Replaced outdated Wi-Fi router with new network switch.
4. Isolated rectory computers from ASA computers via new virtual network.
5. Installed new webcam/mic for Helen's computer.
6. Replaced John's UPS with new technology unit.
7. Cleaned up John's power strip, which was recently cited by diocesan inspector.
8. Upcoming: Replace Helen's UPS; replace rectory telephones and update telecommunication feature; install additional Wi-Fi access point on 1st floor; and clean up unneeded software on Helen's computer.

G. Fundraising: Lynette reporting

1. Seeking co-chair(s) for the Capital Campaign.
2. Communication has started with parishioners regarding Capital Campaign.
3. Picnic – will not be giving a quilt away every bingo; looking for someone to run the snack stand; looking for co-chair(s) for the I-Dood-It stand.

H. St. Joseph's Men's Sodality: John reporting

1. Chicken dinner: Sold 865 chicken dinners and 110 tender dinners = 975 total dinners. Help was good, although some worked all day due to open shifts. There were plenty of desserts.

I. St. Dominic Altar Sodality: Maribeth reporting

1. Honored past presidents and collected for Guatemala missions.
2. Held a quilt raffle in conjunction with the chicken dinner.
3. Ladies have been quilting on Thursdays. They have their 4th quilt in.
4. Will purchase toilets, clean up chalices, and check the condition of cassocks.
5. Next meeting will be May 4th to honor Mary. Rosary will be at 6:40pm, mass at 7:00pm, followed by the meeting.

J. Office Manager:

1. Leasing a new colored copier.
2. The bulletin has been updated and changed to color.
3. John started posting parish council meeting minutes to the website.
4. Looking into how to do electronic payments for picnic.
5. Seminarian gala – there is room for 3 more people at the table on April 11th.

K. Father Jim:

1. We have 3 people coming into the church.
2. Chrism mass is Tuesday of Holy Week at the Cathedral.

Correspondence

A. Upcoming Events

- a. April 5, Easter & Golden Egg Raffle
- b. April 12th First Communion
- c. Prayer for Life April 16th

B. Good of the Order: None

Future Business:

A. Next Parish Council Meeting is Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00pm in Annex Building. (Capital Campaign Committee meeting at 6:00pm)

Motion to adjourn by Maribeth Detmer and seconded by Chris Holthaus

Closing Prayer – John Becker

Minutes Submitted by Barb