

**Mission Statement:** Our Lady of the Holy Souls Parish is a family of believers seeking to know, love and serve God as a faith community. To celebrate the presence of Christ among us, we will enhance the community atmosphere of our parish and develop stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.

***Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council  
Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Church  
1003 North Tyler Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205  
April 28, 2015***

The Parish Council meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Mary Hightower, President. The meeting opened with prayer.

Members present: Kevin Ehemann, Celeste Barker, Diane Scroggins, Joan Swenson, Jeff Byers, Chad Sievers, LuAnne Seay, Chris Schaffhauser

Members absent: Barbara Grafe, Ben France, Nick Ferrara

**Approval of the Minutes:** Minutes of the March 31, 2015, Parish Council meeting were approved.

**Finance & Administration:**

Shelley Tienken reported for Finance and Administration. She said as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, we are ahead \$12,000 to our income budget and running under expenses by \$27,000. A draft of the 2015-2016 budget is currently in the early stages. Once that is finalized, Shelley will present to the Finance Council for their recommendation to Parish Council, most likely in June.

**Guest Presentation:**

Mr. Steve Biernacki, Development Director, Habitat for Humanity, was introduced by Paul Mammarelli, Liaison for the Diocese of Little Rock and Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Biernacki told those present that "Pope Francis Build" along with the "St. Vincent Build" and an anonymous benefactor (who matched the funds raised) have raised funds to begin constructing two homes for needy people in the Little Rock area. A group called "Over the Hill Gang", as a part of Habitat for Humanity, constructs the homes (Saturday being the workday for them). Mr. Biernacki explained that Habitat for Humanity would like to engage the youth in the community to become a part of this endeavor, perhaps assembling and preparing this construction group's lunch. Building of the first home will begin within the next 30 days. Details for parish volunteer opportunities will come later.

**Building and Grounds Committee:**

There was no report from the Building and Grounds Committee.

**Education and Formation Commission:**

Joan Swenson reported for the Education and Formation Commission. Joan said that the recent series presented by Monsignor Scott Friend on Ignatian Spirituality received excellent feedback! The Commission is in the process for working on other programs for the summer and fall.

**Liturgy Commission:**

Mary Hightower reported for the Liturgy Commission. Mary said that the Corpus Christi procession is postponed until next year.

**Parish Life Commission:**

Kevin Ehemann reported for Parish Life Commission. Kevin mentioned a possible idea for future fundraising events. On occasion, a person(s) may receive a gift card and they don't use it. A solicitation for unused gift cards would be held and the unused cards could then be displayed in some way (perhaps on a wreath) for bidding.

**Social Concerns Commission:**

Chad Sievers reported for Social Concerns Commission. Chad mentioned that the deadline for organizations submitting applications for financial aid is May 6<sup>th</sup>. He will send out a reminder to those who were contacted.

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**Old Business:**

.There was no old business.

**New Business:**

Father Erik told the members that a Retreat Day is in the process of being planned (perhaps July 18<sup>th</sup>) in which Sister Elizabeth Greim, Director of Jericho Way, will lead. Several “target groups” will be contacted to attend. Sister Elizabeth would like to share her experiences at Jericho Way and, in addition, request how Holy Souls can further help, both financially and physically, in this endeavor. It was decided to plan an annual weekend to focus on the needs of Jericho Way at Sunday Masses, with the first effort being this May.

A discussion was held to disband the Liturgy Commission of the Parish Council and realign a new Commission centering upon evangelism. A motion was made, seconded and approved by Parish Council members to proceed with this action. The former Liturgy Commission members and the Education Commission will meet with Samantha Deneffe, the new Director of Education and Formation for the parish, to discuss the direction of the Evangelization Commission.

**Pastoral Comments:**

There were no pastoral comments.

**Guest Comments:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

***The next Parish Council meeting will be May 19 , 2015, 6:00 p.m., BENEDICT HOUSE.***

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble  
Recording Secretary