

October 14, 2025

### **Parish Council meeting minutes**

In attendance: Mike Esselstein, Shelley Thomas, Terri Calvert, Jerry Fitzgerald, Larry Gion, Tiann Colwell, Casey Seymour, Brooke Talkington, Julie Brown and Father Konka.

Absent: Dave Nash, Nick Marez, Stacy Celli, Ethan Gion and Terry Fox.

The minutes from the September meeting were approved unanimously after motion made by Casey and seconded by Brooke.

Father's report:

1. New Diocesan appeal amount of \$29,827.00. This is a reduction from last year's goal of \$37,710 (which was not reached). This year's amount is based on 105 Parish donors. Appeal letters should have by now been received by church members as well as announcements being made at all Masses.
2. Father noted that the church elevator is again not working – stuck buttons on both levels. Mike says the repair company will be contacted in hopes of adding our repair to existing trips they may have this direction to lessen our costs.
3. Last week's stroke scan had 32 participants with several being referred to their own medical providers for additional testing.

Jerry reports that the kitchen oven has been repaired with an element replacement at cost of \$220.00 Everything in the kitchen is now operable.

Terri's report:

1. We have 11 OCIA candidates at present with one catechumenate. Casey Seymour has agreed to help Terri with the group.
2. Connie Kirchner is the new funeral coordinator. She works to liaison between Father and the family of the deceased.

Julie Brown's report:

1. The Diocesan Superintendent visited on the 13<sup>th</sup>. He has many Catholic schools to supervise along with his own so his visit was appreciated.
2. The Cathletics event last week went well.
3. The school quarter ends soon with parent-teacher conferences coming soon.
4. The new sign is up and working well. Sprinklers were re-aligned to avoid damaging the sign.

5. Julie talked about legislation/issues that could affect the school such as teacher salaries and paid sick time. She is keeping a close eye on their status.
6. As of today there are 98 enrolled students at St. Agnes School.

Mary's Foundation report:

1. The Foundation won't meet again until May of '26, but the current balance is \$108,647.77.

Larry's financial report:

1. We have just ended the first quarter of our current fiscal year. Overall, this quarter we were 29% short of our budgeted amount. The month showing the greatest shortfall was August with a 53% shortfall.
2. We had one gift this past quarter totaling \$5,000.
3. Mike will be addressing Masses in the next few weeks about our financial status and the importance of giving with comments suggesting automatic withdrawal.

Misc. discussion:

1. There was discussion about timing of recitation of The Rosary, before vs after Mass. Issue being time for prayerful solace vs time for social interaction. No decision made to change the current arrangement.
2. Discussion about more formalized outreach to new attendees and to WNCC students to encourage and support them. No decision made re: formalized outreach.
3. Casey noted that the State Knights are sponsoring coat giveaways at various sites across the state, Scottsbluff being one of them. This Saturday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, new coats will be given away to children and youth at the Knights Hall from 12-4 p.m.

Next Council meeting will be November 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Garden Room.

Meeting closed at 7:23 p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Thomas

