

# Holy Spirit Church

Meeting Minutes  
June 8, 2014

## HOLY SPIRIT MINUTES OF THE PARISH TOWN HALL MEETING

**Attendees:** Approximately 25 parishioners were in attendance in the Parish Center  
**Topics Discussed:** See attached Power Point Presentation

### Meeting Minutes:

Topic	Main Discussion
Opening	Bill McCann opened the meeting at 12:15 p.m. and introduced the members of the Pastoral Council for the 2014-2015 year. The Council members are Mark Dubyoski, President; Bill McCann, Vice President; Norm Pelissier, Secretary; Carmen Arroyo, Bob Baldauf, Christine Colvin, Tony Colvin, Chris Gregory, Veronica Hernandez-Shepard, Richelle Rodgers, B. J. Steinmiller, Michelle Urbanski, and Catherine Urbanski.
Results of Survey Completed Easter Sunday, April 20 2014	Bill reviewed the demographic breakdown figures comparing the last Town Hall Meeting survey of October, 2008 with this year's survey. As expected, our population has increased in age with 68 % of respondents now over 55 years of age. Forty-two percent of respondents indicated they had been Holy Spirit members for over 17 years. Veronica discussed the hot topics from the last survey which included more structured committees, music, choir and cantor topics as well as organization of committees. Bill reviewed this year's rating results (welcome at liturgies, location, time convenience, leadership and spiritual needs). Most ratings were high but there is still a little room for improvement. Phil Durham mentioned that the results of the last survey were posted on the parish website.
Faith Formation Enrollment	When asked if they had any children enrolled in the Faith Formation program, 83 % said they didn't. Chris Gregory questioned whether the period during which the parish center had to be rebuilt after the fire was responsible for some of the drop off. We need to check with Sister to see how many children are registered in the parish and what are the percentages of children enrolled. Maybe we could follow up on Sister's survey last year of the Baptism Registry to see how many children are now enrolled in a program.
Parish Census	The question was asked about whether there was a recent parish census done. There is an annual census that we perform for the Archdiocese. We need to follow-up on this to check the figures.
Frequency of Town Hall Meetings	Someone asked why did we wait 6 years in between Town Hall Meetings. It is clear we should have these meetings more often. It would be good to have one every year. Joyce Rizzi thanked us for following up on the survey so soon after it was completed.
Parish Activities	The current parish activities that people participate in and those that people want to participate in were reviewed. Most people were interested in becoming involved with social events and holiday events. Detailed information will be made available on the parish website.
Children's Center	Veronica addressed the questions regarding a children's center to operate during Masses. There were statements included in the Bulletin about this but no response occurred. Veronica is willing to lead this but there are requirements concerning ratios of adults to children, etc. The side chapel could possibly be used for families with young children. There is a speaker system in that chapel that transmits what is happening in the main church. Michelle

	Urbanski suggested that our youth could get involved with this and get credit for assisting. We need to follow up with anyone who signed the interest sheet. Also talk to Father about the idea of posting in the Bulletin something that lets parents know they can sit in the Chapel and listen to the Mass there with their young ones if that would make them feel more comfortable.
Kitchen Issue	Hank Sebulla brought up the issue of not having a kitchen installed in the new parish center.
Guest Speakers	Examples of previous guest speakers included the talk on Alzheimer's and the inspirational talk given by Father Dunn. People were asked for their input for future talks. Carmen suggested that we could do this about 4 times per year on special occasions such as Christmas, Lent, Pentecost, etc. Father said that this might be a topic we could refer to the Adult Education Committee.
Attendance	Rosemary Dougherty questioned why people were staying home and not coming to Church. You have to put something into the Church in order to get something out of the Church. Norm pointed out that we have lots of potential for improvement since slightly over 400 people attend Mass on weekends with a projected church membership of approximately 1,400.
Tabernacle	Father discussed the reason why the tabernacle was installed in the side chapel. At the time the church was being built, it was a requirement that new churches had to have a separate area for the Holy Eucharist. More recently, there has been a trend for some parishes to relocate the tabernacle to the main church. A show of hands from those in attendance demonstrated that the majority of people favor at least having a second tabernacle installed in the main church. This could involve attaching a shelf to the wall such as was done in the chapel and having a perpetual candle burning that would hang from the roof. A moveable tabernacle is also another option. This issue will be discussed further by the Pastoral Council.
Parking Lot Repair	Bill commented on the parking lot issue. We need to check on the cost of any improvements.
Greeters/Ushers	It was suggested that the ushers should more openly greet people as they walk in and hold the door for them to enter.
Father's Remarks	Father stated that he would like to see more positive ideas about the Church. He recommended a book that he will make available by Matthew Kelly. The book discussed how people can improve their parishes and their environment in general. It reviews the characteristics of a "Good Catholic."
Music/Folk Group	The Folk Group would like to have more microphones so their music is more widely heard. Since there are a limited number of outlets to plug in microphones, it would be ideal to purchase a few wireless microphones.
Youth Activities	Denise Loehr has some contacts that could help with ideas on how to get a Youth Program going and/or how to get youth activities and youth together. We should follow up with her to discuss her ideas and/or to get names of people she knows who could help. This will be more important since Amy Stuempfle will no longer be working with youth activities at Holy Spirit.
Other Issues	Bill wrapped up the meeting by mentioning the Parish Website maintained by Phil Durham and the Parish Facebook Page. There was an update on the landscaping project and also a discussion on proper clothing to wear at Mass. A Committee Fair was also discussed. Sign-up sheets were made available for people to indicate their interest in working with committees.
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.