

GOOD SHEPHERD EDUCATION COMMISSION

August 4, 2008

Meeting called to order by Terry Eimer at 7:01 p.m. Opening prayer by Father Dennis.

Father Dennis had all the members introduce themselves and announced Terry Eimer as the new chairperson. It was asked for a volunteer for secretary and Debbie Politte volunteered.

I. Roll Call

Present: Father Dennis Schmidt, Irene Goff, Jean Fishback, Terry Eimer, Debra Politte, Dan McCarthy, Ronnie King and Julie Connors. Excused: Jenny Hickson and Fawn Smith. Lora Pettibone was absent. Sarah Reed was present to report on VBS.

II. Approval of June minutes: Irene made the motion to approve and Jean seconded.

III. Report on VBS:

Sarah Reed, director of Vacation Bible School, reported that during July 14-18 there were 54 children present. They had 32 Teen and Adult helpers and they worked well with no behavior issues. The tent in the rear worked well and they served hot dogs on the last day. Sarah would like to request that VBS be moved up a week for next year. Father Dennis agreed to this. The earlier date would assist Dave and the ladies who clean. VBS will be on July 6-10, 2009. Registration was published five weeks in advance and this worked well. Sarah will chair again in 2009 and the VBS has a credit for Mastertouch that will apply to next year's program.

IV. Pastor's Comments:

Next year is the 75th Anniversary of the Parish and it will begin on Thanksgiving 2009 and end in 2010. They are scheduling rectory pictures, Ethnic Dinner/Dance for 2010, a pig roast for the Appreciation Dinner and continue with items throughout the 75th year. They are continuing to work on the property next door. There will be a fence constructed, excavating by Reissing & Leonard and dirt distributed from the property to the cemetery. The school has already begun and PSR will begin in September. The RCA program will begin this month and it is the year of St. Paul. Terry asked if more parenting classes were scheduled and Father responded that there could be if there were people interested.

V. Principal's Comments:

Mrs. Connors announced that everything was ready to go and the classroom preparations were completed. She is excited about the school year and will announce on the first day of school a positive behavior program for the students. Mrs. Connors also asked that parents continue to supervise their children when they are present at the parish or school during the evening or

weekend hours. This year the school is concentrating on tardiness and being to school on time. The staff is committed to education for our students. Mrs. Connors mentioned there might have been some confusion on the start and end times for school. School will begin at 7:50 and end a 3:00. To make up the 10 minutes needed for education instruction there will be a 25-minute lunch and 25-minute recess.

- VI. Comments from the PSR Coordinator:
Irene announced that currently the enrollment is low with 38 families. Irene projected 108 children in the program this year. The start date is September 3, 2008. It has been coordinated that when requested this year that representatives will meet children at the parking lot and take the students to classes. 8th graders in the PSR program will do this. On August 20 there will be a potluck for teachers and the Handbooks have been completed. On December 6, St. Rose will join Good Shepherd for a confirmation retreat. There will be 19 children from St. Rose and 19 from Good Shepherd.
- VII. Adult Education:
The new series will start on September 9, 2008. It will be a 7 sessions on "Praying the Scriptures". The school received approximately \$4,000.00 from the golf tournament but \$500.00 was earmarked for the Adult Education program. Father let Jean know about these funds available to the Adult Education. Jean said the price would stay the same.
- VIII. Old Business:
Father announced that the new icebox was now installed and there was lots of space. He also announced that the second Saturday in September would be the Parish Appreciation Dinner. He asked that everyone bring a potluck and the Parish Council will provide the meat and the soda.
- IX. New Business:
Father Dennis said he would have the confidentiality statements at the next meeting for the new members to sign. He reminded everyone to resist repeating information until it is finished so that this negates much of the rumors. Father also mentioned the School Board Training Sessions for the new members. He said it is not necessary to attend together but it has been attempted to attend as a group in the past. It was decided that those who needed to attend who be present at the Monday, September 8, 2008 session at Our Lady in Festus. Terry asked Debbie to get all the members current contact information and to present copies of the minutes to both Mark Smreker and Cindy in the office. The minutes will then be posted online in the Good Shepherd Website. Copies could also go home to parents in the Thursday folder. Terry went over the sheets in the front of the Education Commission Books that say "Items that are Board Concerns" and "Items that are not Board Concerns". Father asked if Debbie could give a report on the marketing committee during the Education Commission regular meetings.

Debbie agreed and reported that the marketing committee had hosted a booth at the Hillsboro Days celebration. They sold labeled Good Shepherd water and Sandy Candy. They made approximately \$400.00. They repainted the cafeteria and the boys & girls bathrooms in that area. They also purchased a tablecloth for marketing the school. Decals were also purchase for all school families with extras available for purchase. When discussing possible growth for the school, the committee felt that 25% of parish children were not in either the day school or the PSR program. Ideas were reviewed on ways to reach this percent of our parish. Ideas were: event for parish children, banners hung from utility poles within the community, more visibility for parish sign up concerning athletic teams. Handouts were distributed on the "2007-2008 Annual Report for the Good Shepherd Education Commission" and the "Good Shepherd Education Commission Planning Calendar".

Next meeting is Monday, October 6, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Debra Politte will provide the opening prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Debra Politte, secretary.