

The St. Catharine Athletic Board met on July 29, 2009 in the school gym at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Trevor Cooke, Albert Vautour, Ed Macioce, Tom Brandewie, Katie Rennard, Rita Long, Fr. Lumpe, Jeff Kanowsky, Tony Phillips, Beth Sweeney, John Mackessy, and Duffy Sweeney.

The meeting began with Father Lumpe discussing Protecting God's Children and fingerprinting. Anyone with or potentially with unsupervised access to children must have completed both the training and fingerprinting. We need to make sure that we are following the Diocesan policy and procedures. St. Catharine passed the Diocese compliance audit. We should be looking at time frames for having our volunteers completing their training well before their activity starts. Months- in -advance is preferable.

This Sunday, August 2, we will be offering fingerprinting from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the undercroft. ID such as a driver's license should be brought with each person. The church is paying the cost of fingerprinting. It is believed that all fingerprints are now down electronically rather than on paper. Kathy Kropp is the PGC coordinator. If PGC training is needed, one can visit virtus.org for a listing of class sites and times. PGC training can be brought to St. Catharine if needed. Father would rather see us be proactive on this.

Rita raised the question of whether or not a re-certification of PGC/fingerprints needs to be done after a period of time and the answer was no. Ed raised the question of other teams needing PGC in order to play at St. Catharine and Father indicated that as this is a requirement for all Catholics, those teams would need to have PGC in order to participate in diocesan sports. Tony asked if anyone had heard of a new requirement at the high school level taking effect January 1, 2010 that would require additional training. No one knew of this, but Jeff would contact Marty Raines to inquire.

Tom asked how much time would be needed to get something organized for spring sports. Father suggested setting some regular dates during the year that would coincide with the beginning of each season's sports. The suggestion was made to have fingerprinting offered in September, January or early February, May, and July. All those 18 and older would need to comply and it was suggested that any teenage volunteers or facility workers turning 18 during the season should also get it.

The discussion then moved to the athletic fields and possible future plans. Father was asked what we can and cannot do. Father indicated that he had seen the athletic complex plan (moving diamonds and football field) when he arrived two years ago. He said that several questions come to mind for large plans such as; Do we have the money? Why do this plan? And what other issues need addressed or are affected by this plan (such as drainage, etc...)? Father stated that he is all for great, safe fields and if there's something we need, let's talk about it. He is aware that many families in this economy are struggling financially and is wondering if it is better to take some of our money and use it to pay for more expenses and thereby lower fees, at least for the short term. He felt that it is important in this economy to cut back, but pull together. If things need fixing or repairing, it should get done and the facilities be maintained, but suggested for at least a year, can we be better stewards by lowering fees?

Ed asked to share his thoughts and mentioned that the backstops (upper) and benches/seats are in need of fixing/replacement. He indicated that drainage isn't an issue, grading will fix that per conversations with several sources. He said that 0 dollars have been spent on the field and we have an opportunity to

finance this project, suggesting a brick sale at roughly \$60/per brick. A new quote, brought to the meeting showed the project to cost roughly \$80,000-\$90,000. He stated that we have lost money in possible donations roughly in the amount of \$20,000-30,000 by putting off the project. With donations, the amount of money that we are projected to need to raise for the new bid is roughly \$50,000-60,000.

Father indicated that the parish has only has about 300 households participate in the Bishops Annual Appeal and that it may be difficult to get people to contribute to a project of this size. He also indicated that large projects need to be taken to the Bishop for approval. Ed asked to be able to continue researching this project. Father asked for what is needed in the short term. Ed indicated that this project could be done before baseball in March or April. Father said that he would need to see the whole thing with all costs broken down and all details. Father asked that the project be a separate issue and was concerned with the ability to raise the money through donations, asking what would be expected. Ed indicated that perhaps small plaques on/near trees or a small sign on the concession stand wall listing donors would be appropriate. Tony mentioned that Hartley raised money for its stadium through brick sales and Rita included that they also had grant money which help with costs.

Jeff stated that we have things that we need to do now and Ed countered that we need a plan and vision. John stated that since new issues have come up such as a new bid that hadn't been yet reviewed, drainage solutions (grading versus replacement) and the amount of money that was "passed up" is disputed, that we need further discussion. Father concluded that the overarching principle is that things which are broken and unsafe, need to be fixed or replaced and that this large proposal is long term. He also said that the diocese would need to weigh in. Father asked for a list of exactly what is broken. Trevor asked if materials can be re-used should the long term plan proceed. Some items, such as benches could be moved it was agreed.

Father asked what was needed for fall. Tom reported that soil was delivered and spread, the field was aerated, will be treated for weed control, and seed will be spread. It will then be rolled. Katie asked what the total quote for the repair project amounted to and Tom answered \$2500. Father asked if it was hurting our field to allow others such as Hartley teams to use it. Tom indicated that it wasn't really. That we must build up the soil and grass to reduce the mud. He is obtaining seed through Dill's Greenhouse as well as utilizing a 400 gallon tank and well water to irrigate the field. Ed added that he obtained a rough cost for a well head which would be approximately \$2-6,000. Jeff added that Hartley would be giving us their water cannon for watering since they no longer need it. Rita pointed out this was another reason to maintain a positive relationship with Hartley. The idea of some type of reciprocity agreement with Hartley was mentioned.

Father stated that long term, we needed to look at the athletic complex field plan with everyone involved, including AJ Myers and get all the information. Short term, anything needing fixing needs to be done. Jeff questioned whether we could get a sewer deduct meter installed to eliminate sewage charges from the watering of the field. Tom will check the cost of a well and its components.

The discussion moved to the use of volunteers and Father's view of using them, any diocesan rules and limits, and guidelines. Any work over \$5000 needs to be submitted for diocesan approval. Father would

like the parish office notified when volunteers are working and to be kept informed because of safety and liability issues. Things would need to be coordinated. He asked the status of the field work. Divot fixing is done for the most part; rolling would take 4-5 hours and could wait until mid-November. It was suggested to aerate again and seed before winter.

The discussion then moved to the board's designing a charter and structure. Albert spoke as to the charter committee's work and the proposal to have a 7 member voting board (4 elected, 3 appointed). The structure/charter was voted down. The pros and cons of commissioners voting was discussed. Father suggested having a smaller number of board members rather than a larger number, setting priorities, and working ultimately as a team. John suggested that at the next meeting the commissioners nominate and vote for new officers and that going forward only the commissioners, not coordinators vote. It was agreed upon unanimously that at the next athletic board meeting a vote would be taken with all board members listed on the 2008/2009 roster (including officers, commissioner, and coordinators) eligible to vote for new officers. Rita suggested that the board establish a structure before asking new people to join thus putting them into a hostile environment. Nominations would only be accepted from commissioners and only those currently serving could run for the position of officer for the upcoming school year with the possibility of an election taking place next spring. Nominations are to be sent to Katie Rennard, acting as pro-tem secretary (for this purpose and to record minutes from this meeting only). A ballot will be brought to the next Board meeting for the vote.

Duffy opened the floor to any nominations at this time and none were brought forward. Albert indicated that he would be leaving the position of concessions coordinator and was in the process of looking for someone to take this place. Duffy indicated that he would step down as girls' basketball commissioner after this year. Rita indicated that this would be her last year as well, but offered to help with paperwork the following year if needed, but stressed that she would appreciate the board trying to find a replacement.

Rita mentioned that she's still not receiving volleyball registration forms and needs them in as soon as possible. It is too late for a bulletin announcement. Father said that the 1st Sunday of the month is a great time for such things as it coincides with the Knight of Columbus doughnuts in the undercroft. It was agreed that Rita and Trevor would host a signup table after the 11:00 a.m. mass and Beth would host after the 8:30 a.m. mass. Father would include this event in the mass announcements. Trevor also reminded everyone that the Green Wave is holding signups on Saturday, August, 1 at Eastmoor Pool.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Katie Rennard.