

**St. Thomas Aquinas  
Parish Council Minutes  
For  
September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Attendees:** Val Richardson, Kenny Davis, Mary McClain, Jerry Stovall, Betty Garrett, Father Chad Puthoff, Ron Puschnig, Sister Pat Russell, Tom Tarrant, Beatriz Alvarez

**Absent:** Carmencita Robles, Deacon Jim Keaney, Rey Mendez, Karen Dalton, Sue Pecora, Michael Roden

**Call To Order:** The meeting was called to order by Jerry Stovall at 6:02 p.m.

**Opening Prayer:** Led by Betty Garrett.

**August Minutes:** Motion to adopt by Ron Puschnig and approved.

**September Agenda:** Motion to adopt by Val Richardson as amended and approved.

**Old Business:**

1. Committee reports:
  - a. Religious Ed: 1<sup>st</sup> week of classes: 192 kids registered vs. 136 at this time last year through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. 92 families registered, 38 of which are new. We are running out of space for Religious Education. The Diocesan Catechetical Conference is Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> in Nashville.
  - b. RCIA: There are 10 people currently registered for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults this year.
  - c. Knights of Columbus: The Silver Rose will be in Sparta on the 28<sup>th</sup>. The Knights will be sponsoring a Public Rosary at noon October 12<sup>th</sup> for the Right to Life. The monthly Big Breakfast will be a week early this month, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Knights are looking for bingo prizes for the Chili Supper.
2. Fall Festival update: Planning continues to progress well. The committee is now meeting weekly, at 2:00 p.m. each Sunday in the adult meeting room in the parish hall.
3. Parish picnic: Due to our inability to find a suitable location at an affordable cost this year, the parish picnic has been postponed until next year.
4. Building/Reserve Fund: With the growth in registrations in religious education, the need to address space limitations in Aquinas Hall is becoming increasingly apparent. However, collections are not meeting current expenses, so the parish is unable to build a fund for future growth requirements. The parish finance committee will provide a presentation to the parish in October with more details.
5. Parish mission: We had a special guest speaker, ValLimar Jansen, come to the parish for a mission on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Approximately 50 adults attended the Saturday mission, and around 30 youth attended Friday night.

**Closing Prayer:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m., and the closing prayer was given by Jerry Stovall.

**Next Meeting:** 6:00 p.m. October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Respectfully Submitted: Kenny Davis, Council Secretary