

Saint Columba Parish Council of Catholic Women
Meeting Minutes
7pm 7 January 2013

Becky Flynn called the meeting to order. The meeting began with a prayer to our Lady of Good Council. Monsignor Lawrence welcomed us. Rhonda Dougherty read the minutes from the December meeting. She was standing in as secretary at that meeting since Regina was absent due to having a new baby. The group approved the minutes. Next, Nancy did the treasurer's report. She reported that we received a 100-dollar donation and that we paid 25 dollars dues at the district meeting. We currently have 201 dollars in the bank. Nancy shared some information about the Diocesan activities fund, but stated that details of this were unclear. She stated that she would check with Diane, the district president to understand it better.

We discussed old business, which included the district meeting and the pro-life project. Nancy and Becky attended the district meeting on December 16th in Milton. They brought back ideas from other parish clubs for us to think about implementing here. They had an excellent time, enjoyed the speakers and shared that our neighbor parish groups were very excited that we were there as a new council. Some of the ideas they brought back from other groups were buying special mass books for children to use on Sunday and providing envelopes at the church entrance for ladies to join our club as members at large. They shared an international service idea of sending school supplies to children in Africa. Becky shared that the convention for the diocese of Harrisburg would be held Mon April 15th and that our district would be hosting it. There is an opportunity to help by greeting people at mass and helping with brunch. We still didn't have a pro-life project decided on. It needs to be done by April.

Next we discussed new business. Nancy brought an article from the Catholic Witness archive that explains the history of the club. She also brought a handout she made listing all of the possible projects we previously discussed and how they fit into different categories of the clubs mission. She suggested having committees to head projects in these categories. We reviewed the structure of the club and the different commissions of service, spiritual and leadership. These are to guide our actions. Becky asked us to look at websites from other parishes to see what they do and get the feel of the purpose and opportunities of the council.

We discussed some international ideas next. MaryAnn elaborated on an idea to provide needed items to soldiers she found in a magazine and website. Regina talked about Heifer International and Rhonda elaborated on other organizations like that. We then shifted gears in saying that we want to start locally to help people in our parish. We discussed a previous nurse ministry, a clothes drive, and helping people with chores when they were unable to do them after a surgery for example. We didn't think those would be feasible at this time. We decided to try to make 1 meal for new mothers and their family. We also talked about doing dollar dinner for CCM in the spring. Becky challenged us to bring an idea and how to get it in our parish for the next meeting. Monsignor Lawrence led us in a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned.