

## Parish Council Minutes – 11 February 2023

**Attendance:** Fr. Eickhoff, Fr. Jirovsky, Mike Weiss, Barb Chall, Mary Egler, Travis Haberman, Chris Lautenschlager (via zoom), Bob Sullivan, Steve Sladky

**Opening Prayer:** Fr. Eickhoff

The minutes for the 14 January meeting were reviewed. Bob Sullivan made a motion to approve the minutes. Barb Chall seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as written.

### **Pastor's Updates:**

-recently completed a morning of training for new lectors and acolytes from the deanery. The training was attended by 12 new lectors and acolytes of whom 6 were from St. Wenceslaus. The new lectors and acolytes will be installed on 25 February during an installation Mass at the Cathedral. There will be another acolyte training scheduled after the new acolytes have been installed at the Cathedral.

-Lenten Bible studies – Fr. Schwenka and Rachel W are organizing Lenten Bible studies. They are looking for small group leaders for the small group discussions. Fr. Schwenka will be giving a weekly presentation on Sunday afternoons during Lent.

-Church Blessing Anniversary-plan to invite the Bishop to come out and bless the church altars in the fall. With the Lenten Bible studies, the Forty Hours' Devotion has been moved to the fall.

-Flock Notes-all diocesan priests received a presentation on Flock Notes at a recent priest study day. The Diocese has already paid for the Flock Notes system for all parishes and schools in the diocese. The plan is to get Flock Notes set up for the parish with help from Ryan M, the Director of Advancement and Development at Neumann High School. Council members discussed a coordinator for parish communications. Fr. Eickhoff mentioned he approached Scott W and he is interested. Council members further discussed how Flock Notes would be used and how it would be managed. A suggestion was made to create a job description, to advertise the position, and then interview the applicants. Fr. Eickhoff requested an interview committee to help with the selection process to fill the position.

### **Pastor's Financial Report:**

-recently received an estate bequest. The use of the gift was discussed.

-weekly collections have been good at approximately \$12,000 to \$15,000.

-council members discussed ways to make it easier to increase e-tithe contribution amounts.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**School Update:** the one year warranty deadline is approaching.

The kindergarten roundup was well attended with approximately 39 students signed up.

The Pre-K roundup is Monday with approximately 30 students expected.

The letter of intent from staff personnel for the next school year is due on Friday.

**Church bell:** the Verdin Bell Company is here this weekend to look at the church bell to review the repairs needed to get the church bell operational.

**St. Michael's hymnal:** a few samples have been requested from the company. The current quote for the hymnal pew books and the choir books is \$5182. The cost of the music issue is approximately \$1000 annually. Council members discussed the choirs and songs at the weekend Masses and any feedback received.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Stewardship/Evangelization** – council members discussed creating a separate Stewardship committee and a separate Evangelization committee. The desire to update the parish ministries and organizations pamphlet was discussed.

-A new parishioners' welcome dinner is scheduled on Sunday, 26 February.

-the "Saturday with Mary" meeting went well on 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday last month.

**Building, Maintenance & Safety** – Women's basement bathroom – the work is in progress. The bathroom is ready for the drywall and fixtures to be installed. Council members discussed an adjustment for the men's bathroom.

-Knights of Columbus and church kitchen – the project is in work and is progressing. They will be working on the kitchen today. They want to be ready for the Lenten fish fries.

-Choir loft and choir stairs carpet – the organ power supply has been fixed. Want to have the structure of the choir inspected before installing the new choir carpet.

**Education** – no additional reports

The next St. Wenceslaus Catholic School Advisory Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, 19 April 2023.

The next Neumann High School Advisory Board meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, 4 April 2023.

**Finance** – the Town Hall meetings were successful. We want to give feedback to parishioners in the near future. Council members discussed the comments received at the Parish Town Hall meetings. Members discussed post Town Hall meeting actions for the comments received at the meetings to get the communication out to the parishioners. Members discussed actions to address some of the comments received at the Town Hall meetings. Members discussed having an open parish council meeting in the future.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Men's Ministry – council members were provided the draft pamphlet "For Catholic Men" for review and comments.

Sanctuary and altar discussion – council members reviewed ways to discuss the free standing altar as temporary versus permanent. Members discussed the church guidance and the options available for the free standing altar. Members discussed the way forward to get clarification on the free standing altar from the Bishop and the Diocesan Liturgical Committee.

Church basement rental – council members discussed the fees for the rental of the church basement versus fees for the rental of the new school addition. Members discussed adding a deposit requirement for the rental of the church basement with a rental agreement form with time limits. Bob Sullivan made a motion to leave the church basement rental rates as they are and to add a deposit requirement with a rental agreement form with time limits on the rental. Barb Chall seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

**Next Meeting: 11 March 2023 at 6:30am**

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Eickhoff

Respectfully submitted,  
*Steve Sladky*