

Parish Council Minutes – 11 March 2023

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

Opening Prayer: Fr. Eickhoff

The minutes for the 11 February meeting were reviewed. Fr. Jirovsky made a motion to approve the minutes. Barb Chall seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as written.

Pastor's Updates:

- the lector and acolyte installation Mass was celebrated on 25 February. St. Wenceslaus installed three new lectors – Pat B, Al V, and Trent S; and two new acolytes – Rod S and Glenn B.
- the Lenten Bible studies with Fr. Schwenka have been going well with about 25-30 attending.
- an email was sent out with reassignments for the Marian Sisters. Sr. Veronica will not be returning to continue the ministry at the prison.

Pastor's Financial Report:

- the parish general account balance is approximately \$250,000. There has been some increase in tithing.
- the Lightning Campaign 2.0 account balance is approximately \$50,000.
- the parish raffle account balance is approximately \$12,000. The raffle account does not have a specific designation for use of the funds. The recommendation was made to move \$10,000 from the parish raffle account to the Lightning Campaign 2.0 account, then pay \$50,000 from the Lightning Campaign account to the Diocese to pay toward the school addition loan. Barb Chall made a motion to transfer the money from the parish raffle account to the Lightning Campaign 2.0 account and to send the payment of \$50,000 toward the school addition loan at the Diocese. Mary Egler seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- we should have the end of the 3rd quarter financial positions at the next meeting.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship/Evangelization – committee members want to discuss the name of the council/committee at the next stewardship meeting.

- the parish welcoming dinner was attended by approximately 50 parishioners.
- Gene C has volunteered to help with the parish website. Chris Lautenschlager will contact Fred M, who is currently in charge of the website, to coordinate the volunteered help.
- the Saturday with Mary will hold their second get together this month for the Rosary and Prayers.
- we are currently working to update the parish pamphlet. The pamphlet is handed out to new parishioners at the new parishioner dinner.

Building, Maintenance & Safety – Women's basement bathroom – the work is in progress. The plumbing is currently in work.

-Knights of Columbus and church kitchen – the new lights in the back room have been installed. The new kitchen equipment has been installed, except for the fryer (which has not arrived). The work on the kitchen continues.

Church bell – the parts to fix the bell are at the Verdin Bell Company shop in Cincinnati. The company will contact us when the parts are ready to install. Council members discussed the safety of the access to the bell tower and possible fixes.

-Choir loft and choir stairs carpet – the organ power supply has been fixed. The plan is to use an organ lift to move the organ to the side while the carpet is installed. We would like to repair the ceiling plaster prior to the installation of the carpet. A recommendation was made to identify a few people to check the church roof after rains or snow melts to confirm no leaks. Tom D and Terry D were suggested; Fr. Eickhoff will contact them.

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 next finance committee meeting is scheduled for 1 May. The committee wants to present updates to the concerns raised during the recent Town Hall meetings.

OLD BUSINESS:

St. Michael's hymnal: the samples requested have arrived.

Men's Ministry – in the process of reviewing the pamphlet. All of the men's groups are included in the men's ministry.

Sanctuary and altar discussion – the packet with the free standing altar discussion was provided to Fr. Eickhoff earlier this week and is in review.

Church basement rental – the update to add the deposit to the rental agreement is in work.

Public Parish Council meeting – a suggestion was made to using the Town Hall meeting forum to share what the parish council is working on, with another suggestion to schedule 2-3 Town Hall meetings per year. Council members discussed the need to have the parish council meetings closed as they are currently held. A follow up suggestion was made to schedule only one Town Hall meeting to provide an update on the action items from the winter Town Hall meetings. The fall Town Hall meeting is tentatively scheduled for 22 October.

Town Hall meetings follow up – additional discussion is tabled until the next parish council meeting. There was a short discussion on the Saturday Vigil Mass time and to possibly adding a 4:00pm Mass on Saturday.

School Update: we are busy interviewing new applicants for the open positions for the next school year. The current openings in need are: 5th grade teacher, special education teacher, PE teacher, librarian, and Title I teacher.

-the Pre-K program is filled up with 33 students filling the 56 spots in the program.

-the church HVAC unit should have been installed recently.

-the one year warranty deadline is approaching. A list is being compiled of the items that need to be corrected. Council members discussed the asphalt issues in the parking lot to add to the list.

NEW BUSINESS:

Church basement kitchen shared use issues – the shared use of the kitchen was discussed. We want to keep everyone on the same page for the kitchen use. A suggestion was made to create guidelines for the kitchen use that has inputs from all of the users of the kitchen from the parish. Members suggested from the groups that use the kitchen are: Stacey D (St. Ludmila's Guild), Marie K and Dorothy N (Altar Rosary Society), Vickie P (Parish Council of Catholic Women), Russ P (Knights of Columbus), and Amy H (Stewardship Committee). Bob Sullivan made a motion to create a committee on kitchen use with a representative from the groups that use the kitchen. Barb Chall seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mead perspective – council members discussed some of the challenges with St. Wenceslaus parishioners attending Mass at St. James regularly.

Totus Tuus – council members discussed the cost of Totus Tuus to parishes. A suggestion was made to request \$200 from parishes sending their students to Totus Tuus at St. Wenceslaus. Further discussion will be held at the next council meeting.

Next Meeting: 15 April 2023 at 6:30am

Closing Prayer: Fr. Jirovsky

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Sladky