

Parish Council Minutes – 12 August 2023

Attendance: Fr. Eickhoff, Fr. Jirovsky, Fr. Johnson, Mike Weiss, Barb Chall, Mary Egler, Travis Haberman, Bob Sullivan, Steve Sladky

Opening Prayer: Fr. Eickhoff

The minutes for the 8 July meeting were reviewed. Barb Chall made a motion to approve the minutes. Bob Sullivan seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as written.

Pastor's Updates:

-the summary of the Vigil Mass surveys has been completed. The results will be available at the back of church. Council members discussed when the Mass time change may be made due to weddings already scheduled through October. If a Mass time change is made, we are considering the Mass time change be made when the clocks are changed to Daylight Savings Time in early November. The recommendation was made to make the Vigil Mass time change on 11 November 2023 at 4:30pm.

-1st Friday Adoration continues.

-the church bell has been repaired and is in use again.

-the church office will be moved from the white house living room to the white house garage.

-the Knights of Columbus will be helping to prep the convent for the nuns. Currently, there are 3 nuns living at the convent. A donor has provided contributions to pay for most of the repairs needed to the convent.

Pastor's Financial Report:

-council members reviewed the parish financial reports for the end of the fiscal year. Tithing contributions for the 4th quarter increased approximately \$30,000.

-council members discussed the school tuition and scholarship policy changes and how it is helping the schools and the parish.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship Council – the council has held two meetings since the last parish council meeting.

-discussed the 100th Anniversary of the Blessing of the Church in the fall. Want to have a coffee mug and travel mug with the church silhouette for sale at the Fall Festival. Plan to order 1000 holy cards for the Anniversary of the Blessing of the Church. The council discussed a church history display for the Fall Festival.

-discussed the idea for the community outreach committee to give out connection cards to update parishioner information and contact data and to use the updated information with the formation of the neighborhood communities. The community outreach committee is requesting approval to use the connection cards to update parishioner information.

-the council is considering the continuation of 1st Friday Adoration from Friday evening to Saturday morning Mass.

-we continue to have a good turnout for Monday's Holy Hour Adoration and Confessions.

-discussed celebrating a Healing Mass in the future and how to prepare the parish for this type of Mass.

Building, Maintenance & Safety – maintenance review team – have not scheduled a meeting with Tom and Terry Dailey.

-Choir loft and choir stairs carpet – the concentration has been to establish the parish office in the garage of the white house.

-School-parish campus update – the campus signs have been put up. The signs can be changed out with larger signs if needed in the future. The concrete barrier should be removed before school starts. The donated trees for the campus should be planted later this fall.

Education – the Neumann High School Advisory Board second representative position - the opening for a second representative is being advertised with a note in the bulletin. The next St. Wenceslaus Catholic School Advisory Board meeting is scheduled on Monday, 28 August 2023. The next Neumann High School Advisory Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, 20 September 2023.

Finance – no additional reports

OLD BUSINESS:

School Update – it has been a normal summer with the school addition in use.

-the school addition kitchen HVAC unit needed some work to keep the unit operational.

-recently attended the Diocesan Admin meeting. The text book loan program funding has increased. The funding can now be used to get any text book that is used by any public school in the state of Nebraska.

-the LB753 battle in the state legislature continues.

Men's Ministry – the speakers have been lined up for the Men's Day of Reflection, which is scheduled for Saturday, 19 August.

-considering a St. Joseph's Votive Mass on Wednesday morning.

Town Hall meetings follow-up – the tentative date is Sunday, 22 October.

Parish Council elections – planned for January 2024.

New ministry and position – Directory of Ministry Programs – the hiring investigative committee had a phone conference with FOCUS. The Pastor FOCUS program starts in October.

Parish Council By-Laws – council members received a handout of the by-laws with review notes to ready over for discussion at the next parish council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

40 Hour Devotion and Parish Mission – we are looking to schedule the 40 Hour Devotion in the fall or at the start of Advent. Council members discussed a possible Parish Mission in the future along with the 40 Hour Devotion. Possible speakers for the 40 Hour Devotion and Parish Mission were discussed.

Communion rail – council members discussed better use of the communion rail by all parishioners when receiving communion. The school students have been learning how to use the communion rail during school Masses. Want to encourage the school students to teach their families how to use it.

Next Meeting: 16 September 2023 at 6:30am at the new parish office location

Closing Prayer: Fr. Eickhoff

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Sladky