

## Parish Council Minutes – 16 September 2023

**Attendance:** Fr. Eickhoff, Fr. Johnson, Mike Weiss, Mary Egler, Travis Haberman, Chris Lautenschlager, Bob Sullivan, Steve Sladky

**Opening Prayer:** Fr. Eickhoff

The minutes for the 12 August meeting were reviewed. A clarification under the Pastor's Updates was added to the Vigil Mass time change plan with the following addition: "The recommendation was made to make the Vigil Mass time change on 11 November 2023 at 4:30pm." Bob Sullivan made a motion to approve the minutes with the clarification. Mary Egler seconded the motion. Minutes were approved with the change.

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

-planning continues for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Church Blessing, the Bishop's visit, and the Fall Festival. The ceremony for the blessing of the altars has been discussed with the Diocesan Master of Ceremonies.

-started visiting the students in the classrooms.

-the CCD classes are going well. There are approximately 80 students in CCD. The students attended the "Hope for the Poor" concert on Wednesday, 13 September. The CCD Mass time has been moved up to 6:00pm to the beginning of the CCD classes.

-South Haven has been shut down temporarily for community Mass, but we have been able to continue to visit residents in their rooms. Fr. Johnson has been able to help out with the care home Masses with his schedule at Neumann High School.

-Pat Burke and Scott Watts have inquired about participating in the prison ministry.

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

-the parish general fund account balance is approximately \$258,000.

-the Lightning Campaign 2.0 account balance is approximately \$78,000. The remaining balance of the Diocesan loan is approximately \$73,000. The continuing campaign pledge payments will then go into the Friends of St. Wenceslaus account to repay ourselves.

-council members discussed parish tithing for special organizations and programs outside of the parish.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Stewardship Council** – met with Gene Coleman concerning the connection cards.

Council members discussed the capabilities of FlockNotes for parish communications and the security of the system to gather and update parishioner contact information.

Fr. Eickhoff and Gene Coleman will meet with Peg Bouc to go over the capabilities of FlockNotes and the required parishioner contact information.

-Scott Watts is scheduled for another talk on Our Lady of Guadalupe in December.

**Building, Maintenance & Safety** – plan to meet with Tom and Terry Dailey on Thursday, 21 September, to walk through the parish facilities and around the campus.

**Education** – the next St. Wenceslaus Catholic School Advisory Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, 25 October 2023. The next Neumann High School Advisory Board meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, 20 September 2023.

**Finance** – in the process of reviewing the annual finance reports to confirm the numbers.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**School Update** – the addition kitchen HVAC unit needed a new control panel. The control panel has been changed out again. We are trying to get a new HVAC unit under warranty. -council members discussed grants to install solar panels for St. Wenceslaus Catholic School on the south school roof.

**Men's Ministry** – there are two events scheduled in October and November:

18 October – Matthew James Christoff

15 November – Fr. Cole Kennett

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

**Parish Council elections** – planned for January 2024.

**Vigil Mass** – the test date for the new Vigil Mass time will be at 4:30pm on Saturday, 11 November 2023.

**New ministry and position – Directory of Ministry Programs** – Fr. Eickhoff has talked to Fr. Kittner. FOCUS will wait until the parish pastor is involved. The hiring group for the Director of Ministry Programs position will meet again to discuss a hiring plan of attack.

**GodTeens** – council members discussed the new couples who are sponsoring the classes. Council members discussed the GodTeens meetings and the Neumann Fire meetings. Council members discussed who GodTeens and who Neumann Fire is focused on and how to get more attendance.

**Parish Council By-Laws** – by-laws have been sent out for review and comments. The returned comments will be collated and incorporated in the by-laws. The by-laws with incorporated updates will be sent out for another review.

**40 Hour Devotion and Parish Mission** – plan to schedule the 40 Hour Devotion on 1-3 December 2023 with the beginning of Advent.

**Communion rail** – a recommendation was made to insert a note in the bulletin on the desired use of the communion rail.

**Healing Mass** – we will need to prepare the parish prior to the celebration of a Healing Mass.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Bosak's offering to provide a talk to men in the parish on Fatherhood and Daughters.** Council members discussed an overview of the talk content and a location to hold the talk. Fr. Eickhoff will contact Kevin and Jillian Bosak for more information.

**Parishioner concern** – sidewalk condition by the handicap ramp and operation of the handicap door automatic opener button on the outside of the door not working. Council members discussed the condition of the sidewalk at the handicap ramp. We have a donor of \$25,000 who would like to cover some of the repair costs. We will contact Kevin Hittle to discuss the status of 2<sup>nd</sup> street paperwork for the street to transfer to the church campus and to discuss future repairs and structure changes for traffic flow.

**Next Meeting: 14 October 2023 at 6:30am**

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Eickhoff

Respectfully submitted,

*Steve Sladky*