

**MINUTES OF:  
MAY 23, 2023  
Parish Council Meeting**

**Attendees:** Janelle Lewis, Pastor Appointment  
Mary Jo Davis, At large  
Vicki Huffman, At large  
Marlene Stammerman, Director of Discipleship  
Doug Green, Finance Chair  
Buddy Ray, Business Manager  
Krista Campisano  
Michelle Kirchgessner, Council Secretary

**Start Time:** 7:06 p.m.

**1) Opening Prayer/First Fifteen:** Matthew 28:16-20

The meeting was opened with the reading of Matthew's Gospel surrounding the Ascension of the Lord by Mary Jo Davis. A brief discussion ensued thereafter, followed by the recitation of the "Glory Be."

**2) 2023-2024 Budget Approval**

Doug Green and Buddy Ray brought the Council up to speed concerning the 2023-2024 Budget. In sum, the budget has not been approved as the Finance Committee wishes to meet with Fr. Tom before approving the budget. It was decided that there would be a combined Finance Committee and Parish Council Meeting scheduled for June 27, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The next Parish Council meeting would not take place until September.

**3) Old Business**

a. ME 25:

- i. Janelle Lewis and Michelle Kirchgessner met and constructed the section insert for the church bulletin concerning the ME 25 Survey. This insert specifically addresses the areas of Member Engagement and Spiritual Growth and highlights the highest and lowest scored items from the 2022 Survey. This insert is slated to be included in the May 29, 2023 bulletin.

b. Unlocked Indiana:

- i. "It was amazing, wonderful, and inciteful," said Krista Campisano. Marlene Stammerman stated that there was good partnering with Divine Renovation and we received good feedback surrounding this event. JP II is being recognized and our name is getting out there. St. Anthony and St. Mary's of New Albany parishes took part in the Unlocked Indiana event.

#### 4) New Business

##### a. Strategic Plans:

- i. **Evangelization:** Marlene and Janelle, in tandem, discussed the need for implementing and updating the Action Initiative Plans for each branch of the Parish Council to discuss at future meetings. There is a need to set goals, take active steps to reach those goals, and to complete those goals. Council members were presented with a packet of printed Plans for each branch. Marlene then discussed her 2022-2024 Strategic Plan and asked those in attendance to do the same when providing their report. Marlene suggested that someone take the lead to take on the action plans and if no one felt called to do this, then we would need to find someone to fill that position within the Council. Janelle suggested approaching Ray Lucas for this role.
- ii. **Discipleship to School:** Michelle Kirchgessner read into the record a brief synopsis of Mike Winebrenner's May 21, 2023 email to Marlene Stammerman. A copy of said email is attached to these Minutes.
- iii. **Worship:** Following the Action Plan provided by Marlene Stammerman, Mary Jo Davis addressed the plans and goals discussed with Katie Haulter concerning the ministry program at JPIL (i.e., composing a mission statement for the ministry program. Increasing the number of parishioners who serve and finding co-leaders who can train and eventually take over in that role. Ministry training for new and old members will take place sometime this fall.
- iv. **Fellowship:** Michelle Kirchgessner informed the members that there was nothing to report concerning Fellowship.
- v. **Operations:** Buddy Ray and Doug Green discussed the long-range plans for both campuses. The Indiana Dept. of Transportation has reached out to the church/school concerning right-of-way issues with the school playground, including the fence, and JPIL sign. Work on the drainage system and widening of Highway 31 will take place by the end of next summer.
- vi. **Discipleship:** Vicki Huffman and Katie Tipker met a couple of times to discuss newly developed programs, goals set to increase attendance in programs, scheduling spring and fall leadership conferences, and desires to plan a retreat which has not been done since before Covid.
- vii. **Christian Services:** According to Krista, the hope is to highlight one Christian service a month and find a way to track those volunteers. By the Summer of 2023, she hopes to have in place a one-time volunteer plan for those who cannot commit to volunteering for more than one service day.

**5) Finance Report & Budget**

In 30 seconds, Buddy outlined and summarized the April Budget highlighting the highs and foreseeable lows of our budget from now to this time next year.

**6) Closing prayer**

Marlene Stammerman graced us with a final prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

**From:**

**Date:** May 21, 2023 at 12:15:17 PM EST

**To:** Marlene Stammerman

**Subject:** Parish Council Meeting Tues 5-23-23

Marlene,

I will not be at the Tuesday meeting as we are on a Disney cruise.

I updated my Google Drive after my meeting with Karen Haas last week. Please feel free to forward results to group. Note we have met our 10% growth of school family mass attendance, though our measurement accuracy was in question, we well exceeded any reasonable doubt as to have easily met our 10% growth.

A few notes to announce:

Sellersburg Celebrates is on schedule as our next Connect Group hosted function with the booth and parade as last year... with Alpha being the primary attraction.

Catholic Schools week for the JP II 23-24 school year will be in Jan 2024

and we would like to have the Sunday 11:15 Mass preceding that week to be a Mass where all the JP II kids attending mass will wear their school uniforms into Mass during procession with Fr Tom/Fr Ron and kids do all the readings/petitions etc... (open to Fr Toms thoughts for how he wants this-I understand our elderly parishioners may not totally like this, but this is a one time a year type thing for Catholic schools week)

I would also like to pursue the idea of a late Summer/Early Fall Weekend Mass where we have any mass attendee wear any current or past day of service shirt/ church function T shirt. (examples are Color Run, St Joe the Worker Day of Service, Alpha parade shirt, etc)

Please have Fr Tom look at schedule to find a weekend that suits the Church calendar, but yet warm enough weather to be TShirt friendly- I would like a date to be ready to announce by late June or early July.

Best Regards,

Mike Winebrenner

Sent from my iPhone