

Blessed Sacrament Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Present: Jack Eherenman, Maggie England, Father Tony Kruse, Dan McGrane, Steve Ernst, Jill Faucher, Sheila Miller, Vince Schons, Greg Stammeyer, and Gary Vent

Excused Absence: Ellen Heuer and Melanie Ernst

Called to order at 6:32pm by Dan McGrane

Opening Prayer led by Vince Schons.

Council Decision Items:

- Approval of Minutes: September 19, 2023 meeting. Motion to approve by Vince Schons, seconded by Dan McGrane, motion carried.
- Vote to approve Council Bylaws changes. Motion to approve by Dan McGrane, seconded by Sheila Miller, motion carried.

Council Discussion Items:

- Update on the Eucharistic Revival Pilgrimage Site -Maggie England
 - Blessed Sacrament was approved as a Eucharistic Revival Pilgrimage Site. The Parish is currently working on filling guardian spots, we are over halfway with filling 80 spots. This week, signups opened up to other parishes. We have purposely asked for two signups during each timeslot. If we cannot get all timeslots covered, we may have to consider changing times of when the parish is open. In case of bad weather, Maggie will send out communications through various means if the parish will be closed. We are working with Archdiocese to track spending on materials to be used to support the Pilgrimage. At this time, our main focus is opening the doors to welcome people into the Pilgrimage. Father Tony is considering options on how to offer extra confessions, which will require help from other priests to hear confessions and reimbursements. Large groups should be pre-scheduled with the office. The parish will not offer adoration on Christmas Day.
- Date for February Fundraising Event
 - The committee is exploring a Fundraising event early in 2024 to be able to make use of the software used for the 2023 Silent Auction & Gala, before our license expires in March. Vince Schons will look into scheduling options for Dueling Pianos for entertainment. It was suggested to offer potluck style meal and obtain a liquor license for a cash bar. We have the option to either charge a minimal admission fee or provide the opportunity for a free will offering. Since this is a fundraiser for the Parish, we would ask for the Finance Committee to assist with this event. We will need to lock in a date and determine the entertainment. If we go with March 2, 2024, we would be able to use the setup from the previous evening's KC fish fry.
- Discuss teaching mass for Spring – This discussion is tabled for a later meeting.
- Finance Council school updates- Dan McGrane
 - Due to a pressure leak in the boiler of the Blessed Sacrament Early Childhood Center and another leak in the school's waterline, MODUS is coming in to do a full evaluation of the grounds and building. It was discovered during the initial exploration of the issue, the building architecture plans on hand do not match actual implementation, making it difficult to locate the exact source of the water issues. After the announcement at mass over the previous weekend, several long-time parishioners have given suggestions to check with Waterloo Boiler Company (WBC) to see if they have "as built" plans, or potentially to use sonar evaluation of the ground to find where the pipes are located. Once the evaluation has been completed, we will have more

information on how to move forward. The school uses all the rooms for daycare for children beginning at 6 weeks through school age, including 3 year preschool and 4 year pre-k.

- December meeting will be a potluck, spouses are invited.

Pastor's Reflections:

- Father Tony will be getting an intern starting in late Jan/early February. Peter Binder is a 2nd year theologian and will be mentored by Father Tony for 3 months on parish operations. The seminary will provide a stipend and Blessed Sacrament will provide room and board.

Committee Reports:

- CVCS – Greg Stammeyer – no report
- Finance Council - Ellen Heuer – no report
- Liturgy – Vince Schons – Gift bearers will be starting again in December; we need more Sacristans, especially at the 10:30am mass.
- Parish Life – Jill Faucher – Winter open gyms began last week and will continue over the next few months. Christmas caroling at Northcrest will be December 9th and the committee is considering having another Bingo night early in 2024.
- Social Concerns – Steve Ernst – Holiday food bags will begin in December. The Parish is working with the Waverly Hy-Vee on this effort.
- Stewardship – Sheila Miller- The Stewardship Committee would like to re-start hospitality weekends (cookies and juice after mass) in 2024 and they would like to partner with other committees to take one weekend per month to serve refreshments after all weekend masses. They are requesting for committees to sign up for a three month period and the committee can choose the weekend to serve during each month of their commitment.
- WCFFC - Jack Eherenman – no report
- Youth Representatives - Melanie Ernst – no report

Closing Prayer: Vince Schons

Adjournment: 8:12pm

NEXT MEETING: Date/Time: December 19, 2023 @ 6:30 PM will be a Pastoral Council Christmas Party with a potluck, spouses are invited to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Faucher
Secretary