

St. Mark Pastoral Council  
Meeting Minutes for 2/17/2024

*Introduction*

Meeting held Saturday, February 17, 2024m led by Chair Dirk Bartram

Meeting was held in person.

Present: Dick Bartram, Mary Anne Draye, Paul Sundberg, Patsy Riley, Fr. Maurer, Doug Park

Opening prayer: Prayer led by Fr. Maurer

*Review of Minutes*

Minutes from previous meeting have been adopted unanimously and will be published.

*New Business*

Paul Sundberg, acting liaison with the School Council, gave a report summary of the last meeting to the Parish Council.

- School Council considering a tuition increase for the '24-'25 school year of a possible 5% increase. It will be voted on at the February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
- P&L report showed a deficit of \$175,840 for the '23-'24 school year
- \$88,000 from the endowment fund was used to supplement the '23-'24 budget
- The Parish support to the school was \$158,000 for the '23-'24 budget, expected the same for '24-'25 budget
- Fr. Maurer explained to the Parish Council how the endowment works to help fund the school, and what would happen to the funds if the school was closed and the fund liquidated
- Paul asked for any questions to take back to the School Council
- Dirk asked how our tuition and school staff salaries compared to other Catholic schools in the area

Mary Anne Draye, acting liaison to the Parish Finance Council, said that there was no report to give because the Finance Council did not meet the previous month.

- Fr. Maurer said the St Mark has hired a bookkeeper, that started yesterday, to help with the workload on Todd Chapman.
- Dirk asked about the published parish budget deficit of \$52,500. Fr. Maurer said that it was within operating parameters, even if undesirable. He pointed out the parish has some large bill payouts in the beginning of the year that help save costs instead of spreading out through the year.

Configuring Mass Times: Fr. Maurer showed examples of various Mass time configuration scenarios for combining St Mark and St Matthew parish communities, including weekend, weekday, and school Mass times.

- St Matthew could not contain their Mass attendance into a single Mass. St Mark, even though it has larger numbers, would be able to so.
  - One Vigil Mass could be an option between both parish locations
- Dirk and Gina will distribute Fr.'s templates to the members of the Parish Council for review

### *Advancing Priorities*

#### Congregational Option:

Fr. Maurer said that he has received four new volunteers for different ministries, and four previous volunteers that were willing to help in other ministries:

- Parish Website
- Lector coordinator
- Daily Mass Sacristans (3)
- Ushers
- Altar Servers

#### Council Option:

- I. Mary Anne presented her rough draft of the Welcoming Committee Charter. After discussion, Mary Anne will redraft it to change more toward a committee engaging on both parish communities as well as within each community
- II. Dirk Bartram spoke about the Community Events-Parish Family Gatherings Charter. There was much discussion concerning whether a one sided effort would not be successful without reaching out to engage the St Matthew P/C in the effort. It was agreed that Dirk would draft a list of principles to help frame the conversation with St Matthew and the new pastor.
- III. Doug Park presented the draft for the Baptism Preparation Charter. After discussion, Fr. Maurer suggested meeting to discuss resources and formation materials that could be made available.
- IV. Gina Olsen (absent) submitted a letter draft to be presented on behalf of the P/C to be read at the pulpit. All agreed that it was a bit long to be included in the bulletin, but could be presented by Gina as written. A summary form would be advisable if included in the parish bulletin

The Parish Council agreed to offer an invitation to Tom Martin to attend the next council meeting to speak about Partners in the Gospel

### *Closing*

The meeting was closed with prayer recited by all

Adjournment time: 12:23 PM

Next meeting: March 9, 2024 at 10:30 AM