

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2024

In attendance – Father Michael, Deacon Eric, Deacon Ken, Deacon Mike, Jim Carey, Curt Sloon, Steve Hunter, Linda Garner, Pat & Lenice Nagle, Meg Maas, Maria Lopez, Shelly Bohrmann, Wynona Vaz

November Minutes were approved.

Review of Action Items – Many Action Items are now agenda items. Steve still needs to do the installation of steel stakes and the marking of the easement. Father still needs to write the letter to Bella's Office Furniture about their use of our land.

Parish Celebration – The Stewardship Committee has decided on June 22nd after the 4pm Mass for our Parish Celebration. They have already had a meeting to begin discussing the project. They have already begun to place deposits and rent items. This topic will also be on next meeting's agenda.

Parish Pictorial – We are still deciding how to proceed. Deacon Ken spoke to Megan Bickel of Joy Photography who is willing to come to town for a week. She would charge \$30/photo. If parishioners decide to purchase photos, the cost would come down. Minutemen Press of Richland has quoted ~\$5,000 for the layout and production of the books. Spectrum Studios is also very interested in the project and can do both the photography and production parts. They are unable to give us a price at this time as the new year has affected their costs and they are still trying to understand what those costs look like now. Jim from Spectrum will be in touch with Deacon Ken when he can provide a quote. Both companies are willing to work with us on cost. Waiting to hear back from Jim so that we have more information for a better "apples to apples" comparison before making any decisions.

Morning of Recollection – Meg – Meg provided the group with a tentative agenda. It is included as an attachment to these minutes. This retreat is scheduled for February 10, 2024 from 9:00-10:30am. Breakfast will be provided. Meg is also planning to reach out to Jared Liebert to invite the Finance Committee to join us. Father Michael and/or Deacon Eric will work together on reaching out to a deacon or priest from a nearby parish to give a small 20 minute talk.

****ACTION ITEM: Father Michael will reach out to a suitable presenter for the short talk for the retreat.**

Council Vacancy – Father Michael reached out to Kimberlee Barany about being a co-parish council member with her husband, Alex, whenever he is unable to attend. She has declined this position and Alex has formally resigned given his work schedule and young family. Father was provided with the names of Jared Houchin, Johnathan Rexus, Blake Thomas, Leo Schroeder, and Jake Waddoups as potential replacement members to consider.

Self-Assessment – Council members conducted an informal assessment as to the council's activities and effectiveness. The last specific goals set were upgrades to the church/PCC lighting, the Columbarium project, sale of Rectory 2, and to consider a long-term grounds plan. All of these projects are now complete. Our broad goals are to meet the spiritual needs of the community through Mass and the Sacraments, formation in the teachings of the Catholic Church, sharing the Good News in the community, and helping those in need. Council members considered setting some new goals for next year or 2. Ideas exchanged included evenings on prayer and adoration, discussion groups to engage parishioners on topics and practices of the faith, more retreats (a women's retreat is scheduled for the Saturday before Mother's Day), a Eucharistic Procession on Corpus Christi (in line with this year's Eucharistic Revival efforts), and starting up the slides on Eucharistic miracles for Lent. For new specific goals, we have discussed making a concerted effort to mark the "Year of Prayer" recently designated by Pope Francis to prepare for the Jubilee Year 2025. During this "Year of Prayer," we have been asked to reflect on the importance of individual and communal prayer and promote initiatives that remind people of the criticality of prayer in their lives. Another specific goal is to continue to make upgrades to both buildings on the parish campus. The final goal is to try to create more adult education opportunities for parishioners.

Report on Projects – Deacon Ken’s notes are listed as an attachment to these minutes.

****ACTION ITEM:** Steve will install steel stakes where the land survey pins have been dug up so that we don’t lose them over time.

****ACTION ITEM:** Steve will identify and mark the area where the easement is located.

****ACTION ITEM:** Father will write a letter to Bella’s Office Furniture to inform them that they are using some of our land based on the recent property survey.

****ACTION ITEM:** Deacon Ken will look into the problem with the fan in the bathroom of the old office.

****ACTION ITEM:** Deacon Ken will check in and make sure the remaining gutter is cleaned.

****ACTION ITEM:** Deacon Ken will check out the broken tube on the downspout by the PCC.

****ACTION ITEM:** Deacon Ken will check out the downspout by the church and consider a drywell.

****ACTION ITEM:** Father Michael and Deacon Eric will consider ideas for our current sanctuary lamp as it causes smoke residue on the wall. The current smoke will be covered up by the interior painting of the church, but we are looking at some new options to prevent the issue in the future.

Tithe – \$4,856.81 from November/December 2023.

Cross Catholic Outreach: \$2,500.00 (Father Hurley will speak at Masses at the end of the month)

Eastern Washington University Newman Center: \$500.00

Washington State University Newman Center: \$500.00

“Night Strike” – City Team – Because People Matter (Portland): \$500.00

B5’s Community Learning Center (refugee/immigrant families): \$856.81

Round the Table –

Deacon Ken – The crack seal on office lot was destroyed by the wind and will be redone at no cost.

Lenice – The “Gratitude Corner” is going really well.

Pat – The Stewardship Committee is contacting ministry heads to create a current list of active ministries and their leadership.

The literature provided by Father and the parish are a great method of outreach and education!

Meg – Believes that placing our extra sign on the grass in front of the parish is a good idea. The “Gratitude Corner” is going really well.

Should we do an Easter Egg hunt with refreshments like last year? Yes. Shelly/family, and Wynona volunteered to assist.

Shelly – We can always have a “Parish Council Corner” in the Voice of the Spirit if we would like to do so.

Linda – Linda read a letter of appreciation from Jean McDonald regarding the gifts given at her retirement.

Linda is doing research on a monument for the area around the Columbarium. This generally costs from \$8,500-\$12,500. It would be granite to match with white lettering. The quoted monument was \$9,500, with a base of 48”x14”x8” and main monument sized 36”x24”x8”. Linda would like this item to be an agenda item for our next meeting.

Jim – This edition of the Voice of the Spirit was really well done. Kudos to Dieter and team.

Overall Action Items:

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****ACTION ITEM:** Steve will identify and mark the area where the easement is located.

****ACTION ITEM:** Father will write a letter to Bella’s Office Furniture to inform them that they are using some of our land based on the recent property survey.

****ACTION ITEM:** Deacon Ken will look into the problem with the fan in the bathroom of the old office.

- **ACTION ITEM:** Deacon Ken will check in and make sure the remaining gutter is cleaned.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Deacon Ken will check out the broken tube on the downspout by the PCC.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Deacon Ken will check out the downspout by the church and consider a drywell.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Father Michael and Deacon Eric will consider ideas for our current sanctuary lamp as it causes smoke residue on the wall. The current smoke will be covered up by the interior painting of the church, but we are looking at some new options to prevent the issue in the future.

*Next Meeting: February 7, 2024 at 6pm
February 14, 2024 is Ash Wednesday*

Projects list 01/10/24

1. The company doing our sign project called again today. We are still in the queue for the sign's arrival and installation as the company was waiting on final approval from the city of Kennewick. They are also working on the neon tube refurbishment and as soon as the weather is warm enough, they will be back to finish the painting of the cross and the rest of the pole sign.
*Last min update: the neon tubing should be in soon and they are working on the new exterior panels of the pole sign. We are currently the next LED sign project. But we are still waiting on the sign.
2. Painting of church exterior doors. On hold till spring
3. Our current computers: 4 computers left to replace. Father Michael, Karen, Deacon Ken, and the youth room office. One is having issues with USB ports.
4. We still have the water softener on the project list.
5. The painting of the inside of the church is scheduled to start on the 16th of Jan. The walls of the sanctuary, vestibule, and hallways will be done. The ceiling will not be done.
6. The carpet in the church classrooms is scheduled to be replaced during the week of Jan 22nd.
*Last min update: The flooring Father selected is no longer made. We have selected a new color but that might throw things off a little. We will still be doing the repair to the men's restroom.
7. The rubber edging going into the choir loft and by the Tabernacle should be replaced next week. We are going to use wider edging to help stop it from coming loose and presenting a fall hazard. We will also have the edging on the steps in front of the altar fixed.
8. The sprinkler project is on hold until spring, when it should be finished.
9. The outside faucets for Bldg. A & B are on order, they are also working on the drains outside the basement doors on both Bldg.'s.
The camera used for drain checking is out for repair, so this is on hold.
10. Bekki thinks we should have the carpets cleaned more often in the church narthex / vestibule and the area around the kitchen. My thought is that those should be vacuumed daily after mass during the week, and we should purchase carpet cleaner for doing touch up and maybe once a week the whole thing. Father is reviewing small, commercial carpet cleaners for potential purchase.
11. Field on hold until spring when we hope to have it fertilized and sprayed for weeds and pests. The question is should we buy a bagger for the mower or higher it out to Jesse's lawn care. Adding this service to what we already have Jesse's do for us is extremely expensive.
12. Wish list: different speaker set up for church classrooms.

****ACTION ITEM: Father Michael and Deacon Eric will consider ideas for our current sanctuary lamp as it causes smoke residue on the wall. The current smoke will be covered up by the interior painting of the church, but we are looking at some new options to prevent the issue in the future.**

Parish Council Morning of Recollection

Saturday, February 10th

9am – 10:30am

9am Breakfast and Fellowship in PCC, Room 7

9:30am 20-minute talk

Themes of Talk:

- A renewed awareness that our unity and efficacy as a council is rooted in our personal relationship with Christ, present in the Eucharist.
- A request for daily prayer for each other, Fr. Michael, our parish staff, and the parishioners - including those who have moved away from the practice of their faith.
- A fresh look at how our best service is an overflow of our prayer before the Tabernacle.
- The reality that as we work to strengthen the awareness of Christ's presence in the Eucharist within our parish family, we also seek to strengthen this awareness within ourselves as well.

9:50am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with a 20-minute guided reflection using excerpts from Volume Two – Conversations with The Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, and Bishop Robert Barron's book, This Is My Body.

10:15am Benediction

10:25am Thanks to the council members, any announcements, and finish.