St. John Parish Council Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2024

1. Opening Prayer
2. Committee Reports
    a. CCD & Religious Education (Chris Wibbenmeyer)
        - The St. John the Baptist Youth Evangelization Commission last met on October 7th. Here are some highlights from that meeting:
        - The St. John the Baptist Youth Evangelization Commission will be taking over the cake wheel at Countryfest starting in 2025.
        - The drop-off/pick-up procedures were reviewed again and discussed. No changes will take place at this time.
        - We're seeking one new member for the Commission. Hope to have nominations at our next meeting.
        - The idea of a Catholic book fair was discussed.
        - Reconciliation services are being offered again this year for all students during regular CCD.
        - Vocation Awareness Week begins on Sunday, November 3rd. Our high school students will be attending our annual vocation awareness night on Wednesday, November 6th. This year we will have a Precious Blood Sister and Fr. Angelo Anthony C.PP.S., who is the Vocation Director for the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.
        - Our next meeting will be held December 2nd at 7:00 pm
    b. CYO (Sara Mescher)
        - *St John's CYO kicked off the 2024-25 year with 46 members. CYO basketball games began this past weekend. St John's has 2 boys teams and one girls team combined with Cassella. During a recent meeting, we prepared ~100 Christmas bags for Rustic Hope. Poinsettia sales continue this week and we are preparing angel tree tags for St. John.*
    c. Men's Sodality (Troy Homan)
        - *Men's sodality and cemetery committee election results are: Jacob Moeller is the new VP and Jeff Wolters is the new secretary. Troy Homan moves into the president role. Ryan Albers was elected to the cemetery committee, while Luke Bertke is staying on for another 2 years.*
    d. Bereavement (Ann Everman)
        - *No funerals since June.*
        - *Preparations for the memorial mass on November 5 are going well. This will be Ann's last one she is in charge of.*
    e. Finance (Alan Wolters)
        - *Sue Roeckner gave a financial update as follows:*

Cash & Investments

General Operating Account	$126,292.49
Maintenance Fund Account	$ 56,325.30
SON/Mercer Co Outreach	$ 66,718.66
Investment Savings Cincinnati	$372,348.11
St. John Cemetery Operating	$ 20,964.00
Total	$642,648.56

f. Maintenance & Grounds (Kelly/Frank Evers)
   - *No report given*

g. Cemetery (Randy Wolters)
   - *During the month of September and a portion of October we met out at cemetery on Monday nights with the cemetery committee to straighten out tombstones. We have been doing this for about 3 years now and continue to make some good progress.*
   - *The grass for the 3 new rows that we leveled out came in very well.*

h. Ladies Sodality (Danielle Moeller)
   - *Ladies Sodality will be hosting cookies with Santa at the Maria Stein legion on December 12 from 6:30-8.*
   - *We will also be hosting our annual Winter Social at the legion on Friday February 14, 2025.*
   - *Gifts for ladies over 80 have been purchased to distribute at Christmas time.*

3. New Business:
   a. New members to Parish Council.
      - Welcome Gary Hartings and Bill Garman.
      - The council voted and elected Doug Billerman as new vice president. Liz Mescher agreed to be secretary for one more year.
   b. The tabernacle is being moved to the high alter with the help of John Homan.
      - Discussion on the change to how communion will be distributed at the back of church so parishioners will be facing the high alter when they receive.
      - The current high alter door is being moved into the sacristy.
      - Council agreed to purchase fresh flower arrangements to be placed on either side of the tabernacle when work is completed.
   c. West parking lot entry door
      - Discussion on the replacement of the dilapidating door and the possibility of wrapping the outer door frame to preserve it. Frank Evers will check on this and get back to us.
   d. Livestream in choir loft?

- Discussion on whether monitors should be installed on either side of the choir loft so parishioners sitting up there can watch the live stream. Decided to table this for now until further information is gathered.

e. Discussion on whether to remove the Callery Pear tree (Bradford Pear) in the front of church. It is showing damage and is growing close to the church. Decided it should be taken down and replaced with something else.
f. Southeast corner of SJB property across St Rt 119
    - It has been brought to our attention that it is retaining water. Agreed the Rethman Brothers would be able to grade it.
g. CRE requesting new laptop. Agreed to set a budget of $1000 for the new equipment.
h. Amplifier replacement.
    - Stage Right while moving speakers found the amplifier to be bad which is causing noise. Council agreed to get it replaced.
i. Snow removal
    - Dan Heitkamp agreed to do it for one more year. We will need to find someone to replace him for next winter.

4. Old Business:
    a. New Roof update
        - New estimate September 12th, Blair Walls, with Wellman Bros., totaled $346,885. Made up of $246,000 (the original quote) plus new quote for: copper = $33,955, roof dormer vent = $13,510, snow guards = $43,953.
        - Sue will contact Wellman Bros. to place us on their schedule for the spring.
        - We decided to give the final okay to get things moving and materials ordered.
        - Doug Billerman updated us on the insurance claim for the roof. The insurance company came back with the offer of $112,111.89. Doug would like to proceed to contact them and have a discussion with them regarding the price.
        - The expense to St John's will be $234,773.11. We will place a notice in the bulletin offering for any parishioner who would like to donate to the roof project.
    b. Review St. John Parish Constitution and By-laws – tabled until next meeting.
    c. Speakers in the church have been raised and holes have been filled in and walls painted.

5. Next Meeting – January 13, 2025 @ 7:30pm in the Rectory Basement

6. Closing Prayer – Hail Mary