**Minutes**

**Pastoral Council Meeting**

**Blessed Sacrament Parish**

**Jun 13, 2024**

**Call to Order**: Dave Raml opened the meeting with prayer at 6:30 PM.

**Present**: In attendance were Fr Tim Hoag, Fr Robert Kinyon, Tony Ohlmacher, Dave DiMaria, Dave Raml, Tim Callahan, Justin Wermers, Ian Kopriva, and Mary Ireland.

**Approval of Minutes**: May 9, 2024 meeting minutes were approved.

**Presentation of Reports:**

**Finance Committee:** Dave DiMaria

* Dave distributed copies of Blessed Sacrament’s Income and Expense Statement for Operating Funds 01-29, Budget 2024 – 2025. A copy is attached.
* The projections, including a hoped-for 2% increase in income, were based upon a review of the past 4-5 years of income and expenses, a time period which included COVID anomalies.
* Some noted expenses include:
  + Salary expenses reflect
    - Expanding Matt Marchand’s role to become Director of Youth and Communications
    - The adjustment from two priests (Fr Tim and Fr Francis) and a deacon (now Fr Robert) to two priests (Fr Tim and Fr Robert) as Fr Francis is reassigned to Spearfish.
  + An 18% increase in group insurance costs
    - Catholic Mutual Group (CMG) is the only company that also covers clergy sexual abuse
  + Some administrative expenses (computers, IT support, bank fees) have shown a nice decrease thanks to staff efforts.
  + Equipment and Buildings
    - Some utility costs have decreased
    - Property and liability insurance has increased 14%
  + Parish Activities (ministry expense)
    - Wednesday night dinner expenses will increase with Dianne Aultmann’s departure as the program’s leader and coordinator
      * Dianne volunteered a great deal of time and effort to shopping for bargains, planning ahead, using available ingredients, and efficiently managing resources and other volunteers.
      * Suggestion was made to place QR cards on the tables to ease and encourage diners to contribute.
  + Annual Capital Purchases
    - Have been kept separate
    - Will take from the contingency fund, to be paid back after Blessed Sacrament receives its expected $425,000 return from the Living the Mission campaign in November 2024
    - Includes projected need for boilers, air conditioning units, etc
      * Fr Tim said we currently only have 3 of 5 needed boilers, with the other 2 being used for parts
      * Dave DiMaria made the suggestion to create a special building fund for specific needs
        + A hope here is that donors might want to contribute to the purchase of specific items, generating a direct sense of contribution and buy-in
* Dave DiMaria moved to approve the budget as outlined. Justin seconded, and it was unanimously approved.
* Fr Tim noted that there will be a financial audit as he moves into his second term as pastor of Blessed Sacrament.

**Parish Festival**: Tony Ohlmacher

* Festival date is August 10, 2024.
* Arrangements are being made to secure tents, sponsors, a band, yard games, and such.
* A projector will be set up inside for an evening movie – something that proved invaluable after the heavy rain and the 2023 festival.
* The committee would like to be able to leave funds each year for launching the next festival.
* Ian Kopriva will coordinate volunteers with the Parish App
* Meat smoking is again being provided by Steve Wesolick, who donates his time, expertise, and equipment. The smoking will begin at 5:00 AM on July 27, 2024.
* Cursillo members will handle of the food preparation as coordinated by Bill Colson.
* Once again, no handouts (pro-life literature, etc.) will be permitted, with the exception of QR codes referring to parish information.

**President’s Report: Dave Raml**

* Dave discussed the criticality of evangelization, especially stressing the importance of inviting people to participate in the Alpha and OCIA programs.
  + Dave called for the Pastoral Council to take a leadership role in this, asking members to have a “laser-like focus” on doing so.
    - All Pastoral Council members are specifically asked to
      * Extend individual invitations to those in our spheres of influence and associations.
      * Reach out to other liaison groups, including invitations to those already Catholic .
        + To re-engage them with the Faith and the parish community.
        + To deepen their understanding of the Faith and increase their comfort level for proclaiming and living the Faith, gaining strength and confidence in standing strong against social pressures contrary to Truth.
  + Other specific requests include
    - Bulletin article/s and pulpit announcements to inform the parish of this initiative, highlighting as well the full involvement and encouragement of the Pastoral Council.
    - Printed information to summarize/ outline the Alpha and OCIA programs and inform people how to become involved.
    - Exploring marketing opportunities, such as ads at the Elks Theater and other places.
    - To be highlighted:
      * There is no pressure to join the church because one registers for one of the programs.
      * That the programs provide a wonderful opportunity for people to learn or deepen their knowledge about Christian living and the Church.
      * Hours, parameters, requirements, and logistical information.
    - Registrants’ names would be emailed to the Pastoral Council.
    - Mary Ireland agreed to
      * Gather appropriate resources and information about how to access them.
      * Write a bulletin article outlining the initiative.
      * Develop a “cheat sheet” for Pastoral Council members and other evangelizers.
      * Work with Fr Robert to ensure all information is properly conveyed.
* Vacancies on the Pastoral Council
  + We currently have two applicants for Pastoral Council membership
    - Wendy Honeycutt
    - Emily Herrera
  + Voting will take place at the September 2024 meeting.

**Pastor’s Report**

* Fr Tim asked for feedback about the moving of the Baptismal font on the parish work day. No one reported any negative feedback.
* Fr Tim said that the angel statues now holding Holy Water at the main church entrance were donated by a parishioner.
* Maintenance notes
  + The new roof is installed.
  + We are getting new windows.
  + The plant boxes in front of the church have been fixed.
* Fr Tim was able to negotiate the donation of large, beautiful granite Stations of the Cross pieces that will be installed at some later date.

**Meeting Adjourned**

* The meeting closed with prayer at 8:00 PM.
* The next meeting will be held August 8, 2024.