

St. Mark Pastoral Council  
Meeting Minutes for 03/09/24

*Introduction*

Meeting held Saturday, March 9, 2024, led by Chair Dirk Bartram.

Meeting was held in person.

Present: Fr. Maurer, Dirk Bartram, Mary Ann Draye, Gina Olsen, Doug Park, Patsy Riley

Absent: Paul Sundberg

Opening Prayer: Prayer led by Father Maurer.

*Review of Minutes*

Minutes from previous meeting were reviewed and amended.

Amended minutes have been adopted unanimously and will be published.

*New Business*

- I. Tom Martin – Partners in the Gospel: Tom Martin joined the council to share more about Partners in the Gospel. Tom Martin is Chief Information Officer and Chief Strategy Officer for the archdiocese. His role was to help create the parish families for Partners in the Gospel as well as materials for aiding in mergers.
  - a. Liaison: Deacon McNabb will be the liaison between St. Mark and St. Matthew. He has served on transition teams in the past for parishes. Each liaison has about 8 families to oversee.
  - b. Timeline: Partners in the Gospel sees summer (beginning July 1) as the time for parish families to become acquainted, then autumn will be the time to form a council for the family. This council will oversee all involved parishes and address the procedure of combining the parishes.
  - c. Finances: finances will remain independent to each parish until the parishes are fully merged.
  - d. Role of pastoral council: Pastoral council will continue to address parish-specific issues. Pastoral council members may become members of the family council.
  - e. Current allowances: parishes are welcome to reach out informally to one another and become acquainted. Parishes are encouraged to limit big decisions at this time, with the exception of setting new Mass times.
  - f. Efficacy of Partners: The Archdiocese of Seattle maintains that Partners in the Gospel will not directly solve the priest shortage, but will lead to vibrant parishes that will create an environment conducive to increasing vocations.
- II. Rhett Hanes: Rhett Hanes attended the council to determine his interest in becoming a member. Council members introduced themselves.
- III. Meeting with St. Matthew: Dirk reached out to a parishioner of St. Matthew for contact with their pastoral council. Dirk plans to initiate contact.

*Old Business*

- I. Finance Council Report
  - a. Mary Ann reported giving from envelopes is down, about 5%. Finance council will reexamine after Easter giving. Mary Ann also raised question about money

for part-time youth minister. Father mentioned plans for targeted giving campaign to those who have stopped giving.

- b. Mary Ann reported \$175,842 deficit to school budget. School will request soon to pull money from endowment.
- c. Finance council member Marcia Yanuss is reaching out informally to finance council at St. Matthew in anticipation of parish family merger.

## II. Charter Follow-Up

- a. Welcoming: Council reviewed second draft of welcoming charter. Father suggested Mary Ann may add a goal related to input from parishioners of both parishes regarding ways to feel welcome.
- b. Community Events: Dirk shared draft of community events charter. Council discussed ways welcoming and community events committees would interact, as well as distinction between the two. Both charters will be altered to make distinctions clear. Council expects communication between committees.
- c. Volunteer letter: Gina shared plan to present volunteer letter at Mass, concurrently with completion of both charters, to encourage volunteers to join new committees as well as fill general parish needs. Idea of ministry fair readdressed as conclusion. Council called to reach out to Jeanette/groups to be present at ministry fair (liturgical, faith formation, other groups). Council decided to set weekend of April 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. Council elected Paul to take charge of organization.

### *Closing*

The meeting was closed with prayer by Dirk Bartram.

Adjournment Time: 12:10 PM

Next Meeting: April 13, 2024 at 10:30 AM