

St. Mark Pastoral Council  
Meeting Minutes for 5/18/24

*Introduction*

Meeting held Saturday, May 18, 2024, led by Chair Dirk Bartram.

Meeting was held in person.

Present: Fr. Maurer, Dirk Bartram, Mary Ann Draye, Gina Olsen, Patsy Riley, Paul Sundberg

Absent: Doug Park

Opening Prayer: Prayer led by Father Maurer.

*Review of Minutes*

Minutes from previous two meeting were reviewed and amended.

Both amended minutes have been adopted unanimously and will be published.

*Finances*

- I. Dirk communicated with Marcia Yanuss of the finance council in place of Mary Ann this month. As of March 31, parish is behind ~\$1000 (\$957) in collections, compared to last year. Parish has spent \$59,493 less than budgeted expenses. Parish reserves were discussed, with plans to confirm numbers at next finance council meeting.
- II. Finance council will meet May 22<sup>nd</sup> to review finances up to May, and June 6<sup>th</sup> to forecast remainder of year.
- III. ACA: Father plans for any extra ACA funds to go toward upgrading the sound system, then to rectory renovations.

*School*

- I. Finances
  - a. Lion's Drive has currently received \$90,000 in donations.
  - b. Knights of Columbus Council 676 made a donation of \$75,000, dedicated to scholarships for the next school year.
  - c. Current projected deficit is between \$170,000 and \$180,000. Process has begun to tap endowment fund. Approval will not be made until July, after the fiscal year is closed.
- II. Other
  - a. Cell phones and smart devices are now banned from classrooms. Students and parents must both sign contract agreeing to policy.
  - b. Current enrollment forecast predicts around 130 students for upcoming school year.

*Ministry Fair*

- I. Pros and Cons: Council discussed success of fair, including attendance of both parishioners and ministries. Paul noted more help would have been beneficial.
- II. Welcome Committee: Paul reported great feedback and interest in welcome committee from fair. Welcome committee met for the second time this morning.

*Partners in the Gospel*

- I. Mass Schedule: At this time, Fr. Ross does not intend to change the current Mass schedule.
- II. Priests' Living: Currently the plan is for Fr. Ross to live in the rectory at St. Mark, and for Fr. Davis to live in the rectory at St. Matthew.
- III. Meeting with St. Matthew council: Dirk and Gina met with Michael Daly of St. Matthew pastoral council. Michael shared list of St. Matthew social events and ministry groups. Neither parish has a youth group or pastoral assistant for faith formation. Gina and Fr. Maurer speculated Fr. Ross will make youth engagement a priority once he is pastor.
- IV. Reaching Out: Fr. Maurer proposed council reach out informally to Fr. Ross and Fr. Davis in welcome. Gina noted council should make St. Matthew aware of this plan so they may choose to do likewise.
- V. Rectory: Fr. Maurer described possible renovations the rectory needs, such as windows, fence, and garage. Fr. Ross plans to focus attention on the garage to accommodate his vehicle, as well as paint the interior of the rectory. He does not wish to incur any major expenses through either project. Patsy suggested parishioners would be willing to help with painting and moving furniture.
- VI. Executive Assistant: Fr. Ross expressed the need for an executive assistant, as a shared cost between both parishes. Fr. Maurer suggested he pick someone well-connected in the parish, deeply rooted in their faith, and good with multimedia communication. Council reflected on possible candidates for such a position.

*Closing*

The meeting was closed with prayer by Dirk Bartram.

Adjournment Time: 2:50 PM

Next Meeting: June 8, 2024 at 10:30 AM