

**St Francis de Sales Parish
Pastoral Parish Council (PPC) Meeting
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
7:PM St Francis de Sales School Cafeteria**

1. Welcome

- John Bruening welcomed all to the meeting. Ken Cornish, the liaison for the *Beacons of Light* (BOL) was introduced. Mr. Cornish briefly outlined his past experience which prepared him for his role in the BOL.

2. Opening Prayer

- Brother Paul led the Council in an opening prayer.

3. Beacons of Light (*Ken Cornish led the discussion*)

- Ken functions as a facilitator of “change” on the BOL initiative.
- The impetus for BOL was a shortage of priests, decreased parishioners, and too many fixed assets.
- Other dioceses have engaged in a similar process (for ex. Cleveland & Pittsburgh).
- A 5–7-year process with no set deadline.
 - o Mr. Cornish distributed copies of the *BOL Pastoral Planning Pathway*.
- Phase 1 – Leadership – Year One
 - o Priests have an average of 20-25 “direct reports”. The negatively impacts the priest’s ability to do the work his vocation has called him to do.
 - o The Pastor in each Family needs to determine what is currently in place and what is needed within each parish and the family as a whole.
 - o Ultimately, each family will have a Director of Administration, Evangelization, Worship, Love in Action and Stewardship.
 - o Phase II cannot begin until Phase I is completed.
- Phase II – Year Two
 - o A look at the “Big Picture” for the Family such as mission and vision.
 - o The Family will need to develop both a business plan and development plan.
 - o Family/Parish teams formed in Phase I may need solidification.
- St. Francis de Sales (SFDS) and BOL
 - o Currently SFDS is an associate member of the Family. Fr. Mike is our pastor and we do not share resources.
 - o Fr. Mike and Brother Paul collaborate with our liaison (Ken) and communicate with the Family. The parish wants to be up to date with BOL initiatives so that if the Marianists leave this parish, the parish would be ready for BOL.

4. Rolling Reports

School Update

- The school passed accreditation by the Ohio Catholic Schools Accreditation Association
- Just completed the “Spring Pause” (2-day break).
- Many students hope to get accepted at Purcell Marian.

- The CISE meeting with the School Board is this Monday 3/28/23. We hope to obtain the same funding as last year.
- Enrollment should be about the same at 220-230 students.
- If we know of any grants which would support the school please let the council know.

Finance

- The Parish donated \$140,000.00 to Purcell Marian for the new sewer system. With the FATH match is equaled "280,000.00.
- Members noted that the insert in the bulletin about the new stadium and the SFDS contribution was a bit unclear and some perceived there was an underlying negative tone.
- Sunday contributions are up 22.5% compared to last year. Increased amounts were noted in 5 of the last 8 months.
- The Finance Committee will budget for a flat collection for 2023-2024.
 - o A draft of the budget will be ready for review by PPC in April.
 - o The budget will be voted on in May by the Finance Committee.
- An organizational chart is being developed.

Calvary Cemetery

- No update
- Much misinformation; need clarity of parish role and PPC role.
- Should invite Jack Boyle to PPC to get updated information and clarification of roles etc.
- John Mitchell will check with the Archdiocese to clarify SFDS connection to the cemetery.

5. Old Business

Audiovisual System

- Installation begins tomorrow, 3/22/23.
- The system ties in with Google Calendar
- All parties must test the equipment before it is launched. Not sure it would be ready for the Easter Triduum.

Steeple Repair

- All contracts are signed for the steeple component.
- IMBUS Roofing is starting to get permits.
- American Scaffolding have completed all permits. Erection of the scaffold will take 1 month to erect. It will go up as high as the cross. The portion over the sidewalk will have a walkway underneath to prevent pedestrian concerns.
- Construction will begin at the end of April.
- The costs will straggle 2 fiscal years. Need to clarify the Archdiocese payment schedule for their portion of the cost.

School Roof

- The repair will be done after school is out.
- Looking at 2 final companies.

Rectory Roof

- Planned for later.

Worship Commission/Renewal Committee

- Need to have a smoother process for keeping track of newcomers and engaging them in Parish life.
- The worship committee identified the need for more greeters at each Mass; at least 1 person at the side entrance and 1 at Madison Rd. entrance.
- A new generic Worship Guide is being developed; will be similar to what was distributed at Christmas.
- Mary Kishman asked about the possibility of adding a prayer during Communion for the streamed mass. It is called “Spiritual Communion”. John Bruening stated we should wait until the new AV is installed. He is certain the new system will easily accept this addition.
- Fr. Mike stated participation is holding steady at between 40-50 participants. In person attendance is up 6% across the Archdiocese but still down 19% from pre-pandemic.

6. New Business

Landscape Plan/Schedule

- Have not been able to find an Eagle Scout to assist with the project.
- Susan Murcah (parishioner) is a Master Gardener. Lee Burroughs will ask for suggestions.
- Tentatively plan to use native Ohio plants which are low maintenance, colorful but do not grow too large.
- Lee B. will have a plan for the next PPC meeting.
- Lee B. was offered a persimmon tree but it will be too large for some areas.
- Planting will be the Saturday before Mother’s Day.
- Mulching will be 2-3 weeks later.

Louvers

- John is working on quotes now.
- The louvers are in very poor condition so all need to be replaced, not repaired. There will be 4 sets of 2.
- Trying to get additional levels installed when they put up the steeple scaffolding so we don’t need to erect more.

7. John Bruening adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kishman

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