



St. Paul Parish 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

November 12th, 11:48 am-1:02pm

Location: Bona Room

Attendance: Fr. Bob Stegmann, Scott Lietzau, Maggie Melchoir, Paul Vanden Heuvel, Mike Murray, Steve Uphill, Cheri Ver Voort, and several parishioners.

A. Opening Prayer – Fr. Bob Stegmann

B. Pastor's Report – Fr. Bob Stegmann

- Fr. Bob expressed the need to bring parishioners back from the isolation of COVID to receive communion at church, and discussed the return of the gifts being brought to the altar. He also mentioned the many needs of the parish and the daunting task of raising money for projects including the parking lot, boiler controls, Vandenberg Hall floor, marquee, and rectory improvements. He also thanked those who helped with the improvements in the rectory living space.

C. Parish Council Report – Paul Vanden Heuvel – Parish Council Chairperson

- Paul Acknowledged acts of stewardship from the Knights of Columbus Council and Mary's Girls, and thanked the many volunteers for their time and dedication.
- We had very successful fundraisers including fish fries, a golf outing, the Brat Fest/Fall Festival, Live Nativity and also achieved our Bishops Appeal goal in record time.

D. Cemetery Report – Scott Lietzau – Finance Council Chairperson

- Scott reported that 25 trees had to be removed from the Cemetery (due to disease) at a cost of \$8,250 (stump removal will begin in the spring). A concrete pad was poured around the Columbariums costing \$6,000. Cemetery finances remain strong with \$31,150 in reserve funds, and \$174,321 in perpetual care.

E. Business Report – Cheri Ver Voort – Business Manager

- The parish will be receiving a \$35,000 disbursement of COVID employee retention money.

F. Trustee Report – Steve Uphill – Treasurer Trustee

- St. Paul's assets are valued at \$1,575,959 and we have no outstanding loans or debt.
- Our parish has 450 registered families, of which 298 contribute \$100 or more per year, and 152 do not contribute financially.
- Our primary source of income comes from parish support, fund raising, faith formation and other revenue which totaled \$480,790, a \$8,082 increase over last year. Our expenses totaled \$539,990. Along with cemetery investment earnings of \$20,008 our net income was a negative \$39,192.
- The Finance Council has identified several maintenance issues needing to be addressed including the parking lot, boiler controls and the Vandenberg Hall floor. The roof however is in fairly good shape. With minimal spot repairs we may extend the roof life for 10 more years.
- Steve expressed the need for increased sustained giving to remain financially solvent. As an example, if each of our 450 parish families gave \$5 more per week we could raise \$117,000 per year and be able to move forward with long needed projects without having to conduct a capital campaign or borrow money.

G. Faith Formation Report – Maggie Melchior– Coordinator of Faith Formation

- We had 12 First Communicants and 6 Confirmations during the year.
- 45 students from grades 1-5 are enrolled in FLOCK faith formation, 27 from grades 6-8 (Edge) and 21 from grades 9-11 (Cor).
- Totus Tutus was a success.
- Faith formation continues to require parents to get more involved and attend at least 6 sessions and some holy days.

H. Parishioner Questions/Comments

- Q – Didn't we used to charge membership fees (\$300 single and \$600 family)?
A – No this was a suggested level of giving. There are no dues or mandated giving amounts.
- Q – What happened to the separate envelope for utility and building giving?
A – It did not go over very well and was ended.
- Q – Make sure we use at least 4 inches of gravel base under the new parking lot for better drainage.
A – Contractors have addressed the drainage challenges and guaranteed their work.
- Comment – The financial information reported by Steve should be shared with the entire parish so everyone understands the parish's financial needs.

I. Closing Prayer – Fr. Bob Stegmann

J. Meeting adjourned at 1:02pm