

**Blessed Trinity Parish
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2023 6:30 PM Catholic Life Center-Parish Meeting Room**

Present: Deb Hasler, Kelly Jens, Sarah Schueffner, Jim Klich, Sandy Jordan, Chris Audino, Scott Birenbaum, Mary Jo Schultz, Sam Steckbauer, Tim Woodworth, Mason Klahn and Fr. Jonathon Schmeckel

Excused Absence: Terry Rotter

Opening Prayer: Tim Woodworth

Committee Presentation – Buildings & Grounds

Tim Woodworth gave an update on the current projects. The bathroom in the CLC is in progress. Replacement of the carpeting in the CLC is being discussed. The renovations should be done by the end of November. For the elevator, three contractors submitted bids and they will be reviewed. The controls to the boilers in church will be replaced. The Council was wondering about the next steps as far as the rectory and other buildings on campus. After the facilities assessment, there were some next steps listed and we wondered what is the status on those next steps.

Approval of Agenda:

Scott Birenbaum moved to approve the agenda. Fr. Schmeckel seconded it.

Approval of Joint Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – September 27, 2023

Deb Hasler moved to approve the minutes. Scott Birenbaum seconded it. Minutes approved as written.

Approval of Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – September 27, 2023

Deb Hasler moved to approve the minutes. Scott Birenbaum seconded it. Minutes approved as written.

Committee Reports

Committee reports were emailed to the Council members before the meeting. Council members had an opportunity to ask questions to the liaisons at the meeting.

Old Business:

- Pastoral Council Retreat/Called and Gifted Workshop– Fr. Schmeckel
Fr. Schmeckel proposed February 16 as the date for the retreat. We will go to St. Matthias Chapel, which is near Kewaskum. We should let him know at the next meeting if we are able to attend.
- New Chairperson for the Main Street Memories & Holiday Parade needed – Deb Hasler
After making many contacts, no one is interested in chairing this event. It was decided that we will walk as a congregation behind a banner. We can hand out candy and/or flyers with Mass times listed. Deb will look into getting a vinyl banner printed and talk to Lisa Gross to see if some kids would like to dress up in the nativity costumes. Kelly will print a flyer with Mass times. We can make final arrangements at the next Pastoral Council meeting in November.
- Life Fair Request – Deb Hasler
Deb shared with Mary Jo Widder that the Council approves of having the Life Fair event. We suggested that she discuss this with the Human Concerns Committee as well as the SJE Human

Concerns Committee. They may be interested in working on the event together. If they are interested in doing it together, she can let us know and we can talk further about this at the next joint PC meeting.

- Council Member addition– Fr. Schmeckel
For now, we are going to leave the position empty. We will fill it next year when discernment takes place for the other open positions.

New Business:

- Advent gift for parishioners – Tim Woodworth
It was decided that we would purchase an Advent book for parishioners. We felt this gift would align with the importance of daily prayer and reflection. We would like the weekly reflection from the book read during the Meet and Greet before Mass. This may encourage people to take a book if information about the book is shared. The Pastoral Council will hand the books out after Masses. Tim will get them ordered and organize a schedule for handing them out to parishioners.
- Parish and/or Council goals for next year – Tim Woodworth
Tim reminded the Council that our role is to support the Pastor as well as being an active part of the parish. We should also be inspiring a vision for our parish. He asked the Council to think about what we would like to accomplish during the coming year and bring these ideas to the next meeting.
- Capital needs and/or wants other than buildings (Memorial request) – Tim Woodworth
A parishioner has passed away and money has been set aside to be spent as a memorial in their memory. The family is looking for ideas on how to spend the money that would best suit the needs of the church. A new piano and upgrades to vestments were two ideas discussed. Tim will share these with the family.
- Thoughts from Parishioners – Chairperson
 - Personal phone calls on parishioner's birthday by Father have been missed.
 - Garbage on corner of property – Jim Klich will check to see if it belongs to any of the neighbors. He will either dispose of it, or use it to make a bench for the garden.
- Policy for Extra Collection/Food Drives/Etc. – Fr. Schmeckel
Fr. Schmeckel checked with the Council to see if parishioners are asked for too many things as far as extra collections. The Council felt that all of these are optional and people will give if they are able and/or if they choose.

Administrator's Report – Fr. Schmeckel

- Fr. Schmeckel visited Chesterton Academy of Milwaukee in Menomonee Falls. This is a Catholic High School. Since there is not a Catholic High School in the county, this may be something that local families are looking for. This school could possibly use our current school building. The high school would be run separate from the parish. There are many Chesterton Academies and they offer help to start a high school in your area. This idea is in the very beginning stages and something for us to discuss.

Agenda Items and Meal for Next Meeting – Tim Woodworth

- Thursday, November 30 will be our joint Pastoral Council meeting at Blessed Trinity. We will provide a chili/soup supper. Tim will send a sign-up sheet in order to help plan the meal. We suggested a few topics for the agenda, like the Life Fair, Eucharistic Congress, and an update on the Eucharistic Adoration at SJE. Zach Holzer will share information on the Liturgy Committee. We will plan to meet for a short time after the joint meeting to discuss a sign-up to distribute Advent books and the Meet and Greet schedule.

Prayer Intentions and Closing Prayer – Fr. Schmeckel

Adjournment: 7:45 PM

- Important Dates:
 - Next Pastoral Council Meeting: Thursday, November 30, 2023
Joint Meeting with SJE, 6:00 PM meal 6:30 PM meeting Liturgy Committee – Zach Holzer
 - Autumn Fest – November 11, 2023
 - Meet & Greet Schedule: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094DA4A72BA3F94-meet>