

**Church of St. Paul – Comfrey
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. – Church basement**

Members present: Fr. Mark Steffl, Fr. Sam Perez, Fr. Tanner Thooft, James Rathman, Matt Eischen, Marianne Schotzko, Denice Evers, Matthew Grausam, Samuel Rosemeier, Nellie Richter – Secretary

Members absent: Dale McMullen, Connie Kelly, Darrell Platz, Judy Augustin

Fr. Steffl opened the meeting at 6:32 p.m. and led the group in prayer.

There were no additions to the agenda. M/S/C Evers, Schotzko to approve. There were no additions or corrections to the Administrative Council Meeting Minutes from June 30, 2022. M/S/C Schotzko, Eischen to approve as read.

Corrected Financials thru June 30, 2022 were passed out by Grausam. Hoping investments will start improving soon. Even though the consolidated budget has a deficit, the parish has made great advances over the last fiscal year, with giving increasing over \$12,500. The market loss from investments is the main reason of the budget deficit. Online giving fees are \$36 per month but our income generated from its' use is more than that. M/S/C Eischen, Schotzko to approve financials as presented.

There was no feedback from the letter that Fr. Steffl sent out in June (along with parishioners up-to-date giving statements).

North entrance in church, as well as getting a quote on painting the remaining church, are both still awaiting Jon Vogel - he will be called again. The rectory basement doors are being worked on by Jim Rathman and Stan Schotzko and are about half done. Jim installed the dehumidifier in the rectory basement in early July.

Outside church sign: Schotzko and Evers met and did a mock-up of what it will look like, but considering a brick-red for wording of Church of St. Paul and Parish Center phone number. Council thought it looked good, so will proceed with it.

A separate Parish Center sign will be wood, with days and times listed. This will replace the small sign that is there now. Denice Evers will pay for this (brown sign with white lettering).

Schotzko would like the trophies from years ago be gone thru and allow people to take the ones that we aren't keeping. Rathman stated that they are part of our history, so will try and keep the Championship ones. Decided on no lock on the cabinet. Fr. Steffl said that the Clergy pictures should no longer be displayed – should be put in a scrapbook instead.

Fr. Tanner reported on the Carillon Bells – he can program it as it worked inside the church but couldn't get it to play outside. Should maybe get electrical checked out; bird nests in speakers and guessing a wire disconnected. Eischen said he will have a scissor lift Friday morning that he could bring for Fr. Tanner to look at the speakers after Mass.

No Cemetery Report.

Church Dinner – Gambling License was applied for and letters were sent out asking businesses for donations for raffle prizes.

Religious Education – Samuel Rosemeier, DRE: We will have Grades 1-8 program and 4 teachers. Eischen said they contacted people and this program allows families to not be 'split up' and going in different directions for this year at least. Fr. Steffl said that there are bigger parishes than St. Paul's that do not have a Religious Ed program. Eischen said we are fighting to keep our program, but larger classes are also easier to teach.

CCW Report – Schotzko: No meetings for July and August. St. Mary's Circle helped serve Martha Fredin's funeral luncheon.

Liturgy Report and Environment Reports: No reports

West window in church addition: Fr. Steffl could have person doing windows at St. Mary's look at this. Evers suggested we look at after meeting and contact Vogel if it needs repairing.

Rathman thinks our storm drain can't handle a heavy rain – Schotzko thinks something wasn't done correctly when tiling the new addition.

Fuel oil for rectory – will check with Travis at Farmward if contract is available yet.

Fr. Steffl said that the chalice and ciborium that were replated turned out very nice. Our monstrance is in bad shape and should also be redone. Should ask for donations. Tim Francis will be speaking at St. Mary's on October 12 and 13 – will be same talk, so only need to attend one evening.

Mass for the Assumption had about 30 in attendance.

Next meeting was set for Thursday, November 10th at 6:30 p.m. Will look at west window after meeting.

Fr. Steffl led group in closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,
Nellie Richter - Secretary**