

Church of St. Paul, Comfrey
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes – Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: James Rathman, Darrell Platz, Linda Kelly, Judy Augustin – Trustee,
Msgr. Lozinski, Nellie Richter – Secretary

Absent: Matt Eischen, Margaret Hopwood, Dale McMullen, Connie Kelly, Denice Evers – Trustee, Marianne Schotzko, Richard Callanan, Doug Callanan

Note: As there was no quorum of Council Members, could only discuss items on Agenda, as unable to take action or approve, unless approval was given by Msgr.

Msgr. Lozinski opened the meeting with the Liturgy of the Hours Evening Prayer at 6:37 p.m.

Agenda Addition: Edward Jones Investment of \$125,000 coming due on February 22, 2019.

Chairman Rathman gave members time to look over the January 24, 2019 minutes and January 2019 financials. Talked about the handicap parking for funerals and no matter how hearse/vehicles are lined up, the handicap parking will be blocked. Msgr. added that sometimes there are no solutions to a problem. Could do an announcement at funerals that if there are concerns, ushers can help people needing assistance. Msgr. will talk to Jay Van Sickle (Sturm Funeral Home) about it and see if he has any ideas.

Financials – Questions were asked regarding various expenses and year-to-date totals, of which we are behind according to budget figures. The Calendar Raffle income this year is down almost \$2000. A census report of parishioners is sent to Wanda Ubl at the Diocese every month by parish secretary, as all parishes are now required to do. Our parish has received \$615.00 so far from DMA. Our parish goal (that the Diocese sets) is \$6,987, of which our parish gets 20%. \$3,075 has been given so far from 12 donors. Msgr. will check if the parish has to pay the balance of goal if it is not met. No specific projects decided on.

Rathman asked Msgr. if it would be okay if he and another person talked with Steffl regarding the water run-off from church prior to Spring. Msgr. was okay with that. Stained Glass Window coverings – tabled until Spring. Msgr. will have a better picture at the end of the year on sub-committees and what groups can meet without him, etc. The Cemetery is separate already. Msgr. looked at Kemske for a fire-proof cabinet – they are around \$1,800 plus shipping. Need to find an area in rectory to place it. The copier lease will end at the end of June, so will be getting a copier and lease thru another company.

Rectory walls – the top coat of plaster is cracking and buckling in areas. Need to find someone who would be able to re-plaster the walls, as unable to put sheetrock up without removing all the wood (window/door/baseboard) trim first and then reinstalling it. Will check with Ryan McMullen.

CCW and Environment – Marianne Schotzko sent an email: February CCW Meeting was cancelled due to weather. Rescheduled for March 7th. Will not be hosting World Day of Prayer this year. Environment: No meeting planned at this time.

Building & Maintenance – Richard Callanan sent an email: Urinal in Family bathroom in new addition is freezing up at times when weather gets extremely cold. It is on an outside

wall. Turning the baseboard heat to high setting and closing door is short term fix for now, but will need to be addressed as that should not be happening.

Liturgy: Augustin remarked that we will be preparing for Lent Season.

AFC: Next meeting is Tuesday, March 26th. Msgr. said they are working on a Mission Statement for the group.

Education/CCD: Msgr. said that Andrew Dieter is setting up a committee to evaluate all the AFC Religious Ed programs. Msgr. does not feel that one hour/week is adequate and without the support of the parents to help teach their child(ren) about their faith, the knowledge of the prayers and things they should know is at an elementary level. With the Family Faith Program that St. Paul and Japanese Martyrs do together now, it is difficult to teach all the various age levels that attend, and weather has cancelled some classes. Once confirmed in 11th grade, most kids do not attend remaining classes. Everyone is struggling – not just here, but everywhere - families are just not attending church. Issues of the clergy abuse, society and social media are just some of the reasons why – God has been taken out of everything. Our goal is what is best for our kids and God has to be the center of our lives.

Msgr. attended most of the Pastoral Leader Days and Bishop LeVoir spoke the 2nd day about the priorities he is focusing on: To settle bankruptcy, Pastoral planning - realizing the necessity of merging churches due to the number of priests (67 parishes will be down to only 25 priests in a short time), Evangelization and Priest Unity. Most important is that prayer needs to be at the heart of everything. Bankruptcy meeting held earlier in February with judge: nothing settled yet, but all parishes in the Diocese will pay something (whether or not they have a lawsuit against them).

Msgr. spoke about the AFC bulletin. The advertisers that pay LPI makes the printing of the bulletin free. It still costs something to type the information into the format and then delivery costs, etc. When Sister JoAnne used to type up the bulletin, run off copies, fold them, etc., the time she invested into doing all this and what she was paid has to also be considered. We are getting a nice-looking bulletin and we are in a 7-year contract, so nothing can really be done about it at this time.

The Edward Jones Investment of \$125K is due February 22, 2019. With the bankruptcy payment (amount unknown) and rain water issue coming up, is it better to put \$25K in a shorter term investment and the \$100K in for a longer term? EJ rates are: 3 mos. 2.25%, 6 mos. 2.35% and 12 mos. 2.5%. Decided that Nellie should check with SouthPoint Financial as to what rates they have and get back to Msgr.

Msgr. will eventually have a Joint Administrative Council Meeting of all 4 parishes of the AFC. Another Secretary meeting for 4 parishes will be set up soon. Suggested that our parish start Adoration.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. after Closing Prayer.

(Minutes submitted, but not approved – 3/07/19)
Nellie Richter - Secretary