

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
October 24, 2017 (Approved November 28, 2017)

STAFF/COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Pastor – Fr. Tony Smith
Pastoral Assoc. – Bill Unruh
Deacon Wayne Thieneman (excused)
Chairperson – Joe Rickert
Vice Chair – Matt Rasche

Formation – Vicki Neuner (excused)
Worship – Dave Dalton
Finance Council – Joyce Nelson
Seniors – Paul Graf (excused)
Personnel Committee – Gena Rasche
NDA Representative – Dee Dee Nauert
Stewardship – Charlotte McClamroch

AT LARGE MEMBERS

George Morse
Kenny Nauert, Sr.
Marian Hendricks
Denise Ruffra
Marilyn McNeill
Danny Atzinger
Julianne Davis
Josh Riley

Alternates:
Mary Doris McCubbins (excused)
Phyllis Ritchie (excused)

The meeting was opened with the CSA prayer, offered by Fr. Tony. June meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Denise Ruffra, with second by Kenny Nauert. August Day of Reflection minutes were approved with motion by Kenny Nauert, with second by Danny Atzinger.

FINANCE COUNCIL

- Joyce Nelson reported the Finance Council is meeting quarterly now. Tithing for July/August/September total \$104,623; down for the quarter by \$8780 to budget; down per year by 9%.
- EFT: Donations for July/August/September \$16,333.35.
- Church Loan balance owed to Archdiocese as of 9/1/17: \$37,696.41. Balance of cash in “church loan payments to Archdiocese” (blue envelopes): \$24,550.28. Monthly loan payment to Archdiocese: \$1,229.84. As of 9/1/17, amount owed to parishioners: \$93,360.00.
- Fieldhouse loan balance PAID in FULL!
- Loan balance for Rockford Lane property: \$58,588.99.
- Hired 2 new people to clean the parish hall, and new Music Minister, all beginning October 1.
- New phone system has caused lots of problems between NDA/CEC/Parish Office.
- Archdiocese has updated the benefit package; health insurance will rise 8.9%. Beginning Jan 1, 2018 the Archdiocese will lower the contribution to the employee’s 401K from 6% to 4%, with option to self-contribute from the employees. First 2% at 100% match, then the second 2% at 50% match. Each parish is responsible for making the contributions to the employees, just like payroll comes from each parish, not the Archdiocese.

PASTOR’S REPORT

- Financial Strategic Plan – Grant from Lilly Foundation will be used to pay for resources to help parish set up a 5-year Plan for Finances. Three phases possible (Fall 2017/Spring 2018/Fall 2018).
- Strategic Plan Follow Up – After discussions at recent meetings and during the Day of Reflection, will revisit this plan next year.
- Youth Ministry – Fr. Tony sent email to Council prior to meeting asking for consideration/feedback regarding options for Youth Minister. Options included hiring a Youth Minister to share with other parishes; hire Youth Minister for St. Lawrence alone; St. Lawrence maintain no active Youth Minister until Parish shows support for it. Council was advised that St. Paul no longer has a Youth Minister, and Mary Queen of Peace’s Youth Minister will retire in December. Fr. Christian at Incarnation doesn’t want to combine Incarnation’s Youth Ministry with other parishes. Discussion followed regarding partnering with Mary Queen of Peace and Peter the Apostle Parishes. Council discussed lack of parent involvement for Youth Ministry at St. Lawrence. Discussed that the Youth need to have a connection with the leader for success of Ministry. Council agreed Youth Ministry is desired. Fr. Tony will discuss further with Frs. Chuck Walker and Peter Bucalo.

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- Fr. Tony asked Council if anyone heard any feedback from the letter he sent out regarding Mass attendance. One comment was regarding the percentage numbers mentioned in letter. Another feedback

concerned summertime activities and being gone on vacation. Another comment was regarding talk from pulpit addresses the people who are in attendance.

Grounds & Maintenance – Matt Rasche reported there are several limbs down that need to be removed. Josh Riley suggested contacting Shively Tree Service.

Booster Club – Joe Rickert repeated Joyce's report that the Fieldhouse loan has been paid. Boosters received a generous donation for maintenance at the football complex. Fence signs selling well. Need new scoreboard. Monte Carlo is scheduled for Saturday, February 10, 2018. Will plan Lenten Fish Frys. Hired new cleaners for Parish Hall.

Stewardship – Charlotte McClamroch lead discussion regarding the signs at James R. Meder Road need to be replaced. Gena Rasche asked if the sign on the empty lot can be moved. Discussion followed regarding these and also regarding electric lights needed at the stone sign on Lewiston at entrance to St. Lawrence. Suggestion was made to plan a fundraiser or request donations for this purpose at Masses. Charlotte reported the committee is discussing a dance, with school support. PTO wants a Spring Fling. Planning a dinner with new families after Easter. Cards with Welcome to St. Lawrence message on tables in gathering space. Committee asks for loan of lap tops to help people register for Kroger rewards program, after Masses.

Personnel – Gena Rasche advised this committee has not met recently.

Picnic – Joe Rickert reported committee had good meeting recently. Randy will work with committee during transition. Will plan to increase the number of dinners to 1000 for next year; will not have advance selling of dinner tickets. Discussion regarding music couldn't be heard except near the stage; hope to improve next year.

Formation – Bill Unruh reported the Word Among Us booklets have all been taken in September and October, so increased the order for November and Advent. Monday Bible Study going well, with 20 participants total, split in morning and evening sessions. RCIA – Mandy and Kevin Harvey are inquirers, along with their twin daughters. Linda Dockery and Jesse Schuler are involved in RCIA as well. Advent Evening of Reflection is planned for December 7, in community room, with Brother Bob Baxter. Bill will discuss with Formation Committee regarding possibility of having soup to serve before. The Women's Retreat was enjoyed by all. DiCaFF is going well.

Outreach – Consolation Committee is planning the Mass of Remembrance, scheduled for November 5, with a reception after for families. Will send invitations.

Notre Dame Academy – Dee Dee Nauert reported there was an Open House today; 4 families came. Staff is taking CPR training for adults and children. 18 staff went through 4 hour course today; more will take course tomorrow. Conferences went well. Main Event is scheduled for November 4. Fourth grade Reconciliation is same day.

Worship – Deacon Dave Dalton reported new Music Minister, Patrick Hughes, is working out well. Still working on Children's Liturgy. NDA Music Director has formed a Children's Choir. Discussion regarding schedule for Christmas Eve and Christmas Masses, since Christmas Eve is also the 4th Sunday of Advent. Saturday, December 23: 5:00 PM - Sunday, December 24: 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM. Christmas Day: 10:00 AM.

Seniors – No report.

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St. Vincent de Paul – Denise Ruffra reported Larry Cissell is new chef for monthly dinners, starting October. Next dinner will be 3rd Wednesday in January.

Meeting was adjourned with motion by Kenny Nauert, with second by George Morse. Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is November 28, 4th Tuesday of month.

Respectively submitted,
Dee Gossman