**ST. LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL / FINANCE COUNCIL**

**JULY 19, 2022 - APPROVED AUGUST 23, 2022**

STAFF/COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES AT LARGE MEMBERS

Pastor – Fr. Bill Burks George Morse

Pastoral Assoc. – Bill Unruh Kenny Nauert, Sr.

Denise Ruffra

Chairperson – Joe Rickert Josh Riley (excused)

Vice Chair – Matt Rasche Sarah Burke

Angela Taylor

Finance Council – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Danielle Wiegandt

Worship – Karen Kuenzig Amy Wilson

Planning & Maintenance – Matt Rasche

Stewardship – Deacon Dave Maxwell Alternate:

Formation – Vicki Neuner Mary Doris McCubbins

Personnel Committee – Gena Rasche Aimee Burton

NDA – Dee Dee Nauert

Booster Club – Joe Rickert

Joe Rickert welcomed everyone and Fr. Bill opened the meeting with a prayer. Introductions were made and thanks given to outgoing members and incoming new Council Members. May meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Mary Doris McCubbins, with second by Kenny Nauert.

**PASTOR’S REPORT – FR. BILL BURKS**

First order of business is need of officers. Joe Rickert is off as Chairperson, as of tonight. After discussion, Matt Rasche was nominated and accepted the Chairmanship. Nominations for Vice Chair were requested, with Joe nominating Aimee Burton, who accepted. Next discussion was regarding a Finance Council chair for reporting at Parish Council, due to Joyce Nelson’s retirement. After discussion, Emily Rickert accepted the Financial Chair position. Next discussion concerned the end dates for current council members. Decided to table that discussion until August Council meeting.

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE – BILL UNRUH**

RCIA – Bill has been in contact with 6 interested persons, and will meet with them on Thursday, July 21, at 6:00 PM.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word – Summer session is going well – averaged about 25 children in May/June, with last few weeks down to about 15-16. Have purchased hard cover Interactive Mass Books for the children. Sarah Nash is using the book with a small group each week. Fr. Bill interjected that this book goes along with the Eucharistic Revival.

Vacation Bible School has had good participation; being held at Incarnation. Religious Ed will begin in August.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance** – Susan Carter, new Parish Business Manager, reported the picnic has estimated $19,000 profit. Books not officially closed for fiscal year. Will discuss more with Emily Rickert. Picnic report will be published when finalized.

**Grounds/Maintenance** – Matt Rasche reported the parking lot is scheduled for first week of August. MSD needs to complete an issue with sewer/drain lines. Larry Schum is out on leave; the committee is taking over some of Larry’s responsibilities. Karen Kuenzig advised she is taking care of the baptismal font. Matt reported he will meet with Susan Carter for more planning and capital improvements. Joe Rickert advised we need to look at the fence line between the ditch and ball field, with discussion following. Matt advised there are trip hazards by the Junior High, which need to be addressed. May jack-hammer the concrete out and blacktop the area.

**Booster Club** – Joe Rickert reported Boosters met on Sunday, July 17. Discussed the new pastor at Mary Queen of Peace, and that MQofP parish is looking at opening the gym and hosting sports again. Fall sports start end of July. Will host Sunday football and Saturday volleyball at St. Lawrence. The Boosters will cook for the Color Run, scheduled for August 19.

**Stewardship** – Dave Maxwell reported there was a new parishioners welcome meeting on June 5. Few showed up. Fr. Bill advised we will plan more welcome meetings according to number of new members.

Mary Doris McCubbins suggested committees to be highlighted in the bulletin, to show involvement, appreciation, and invite more involvement. Gena Rasche suggested could also show on the screens.

Fr. Bill suggested need a discussion on technology methods used and if effective. Facebook seems most reliable. Maybe ask parish how best to receive information and go with majority.

**Personnel** – Gena Rasche reported new hire, Susan Carter.

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**Notre Dame Academy** – Dee Dee Nauert reported they are finishing the summer tutoring program funded with an EANS grant. Faculty Retreat is scheduled for August 8. Archdiocese opening Mass is scheduled August 9, at Our Lady of Lourdes. Mandatory Parent Meeting is August 10. Open House is August 11. August 16 is first day of school at NDA. Will have early dismissal on Fridays at 1:00 PM. All staff positions are filled, including new secretary.

**Youth Ministry** – Michael Raymer sent report via email prior to meeting. Highlights included:

Leadership team meeting held on June 20, with students and adults giving ideas of how they want to serve, fun activities, and events. Out of that day, have a year-long plan with service, faith-building, and community building activities.

Took the youth ministers to Holiday World July 12; had a fun-filled day & posted pics on Facebook.

Thursday, July 21 and Friday August 12 will go to Franciscan Soup Kitchen with 5 students and 2 adults. Students said in planning meeting they wanted to go at least once a month.

Fundraising dates coming up: August 5 at Panera Bread, and August 18 at Mark’s Feed Store on Dixie. Money received will go towards supporting students who want to attend the 2023 Archdiocesan Mission Trip to Guatemala and for NCYC 2023. Trying to get a date with Frisch’s as well.

Planning a welcome to start of school cookout for high schoolers on August 7.

Hoping to take a bus of 6-8th grade students to Holy Fire in Nashville on October 1, which is a one-day middle school conference, like NCYC for high schoolers.

Ready for after-school Junior High program to restart, with school starting, and have some family friendly events planned, like Jack O Lantern Spectacular in Iroquois Park and Lights Under Louisville, this year.

**Faith Formation** - Vicki Neuner reported on the most recent June Committee meeting, which included plans for Advent Evening of Reflection. Also discussed an event in conjunction with the Eucharistic Renewal. Committee watched a video from Bishop Barron’s “The Eucharist”, as a possibility for all Parish. Fr. Bill discussed the lack of participation in Eucharistic Adoration.

**Worship** – Karen Kuenzig sent a report via email prior to meeting, with following highlights:

Miller Company installed a new system for Lobby Monitors with new TV in the very back. Still working out glitches, but overall, a way better system.

Trained Eucharistic Ministers and refreshed others this past weekend, July 16-17. Charlotte McClamroch will send updated lists. There are now designated ministers to retrieve the Ciborium and bring to altar for each Mass.

Hope to train and refresh the lectors soon, as well as the ushers. Usher ministry needs to be revisited as to what they do, and need to assist in collection.

Kids Quire “The Grillers” has about 12 members so far. Expect that number to grow with start of school. Hope to have rehearsals after school on Tuesdays; they can come also Tuesday night the adult Quire for extra practice. Training 2 kids to cantor for NDA opening Mass.

Discussed at Staff meeting the need for signage at end of streets where folks can find us.

NPM (National Pastoral Musicians) Conference was great. St. Lawrence was well represented. Karen was in charge of Art/Environment spaces at Galt House. About 600 in person attendees, with unknown number on-line.

From NPM, picked up faceless Saint posters for the Youth room. One is St. Lawrence and one is St. Catherine of Sienna. They are modern and very cool. The faceless images allow the observer to question what part of themselves is like the qualities of the particular saint they are seeing.

Holiday World was great event for kids involved in ministry in parish. Hope to go to Meinrad/Ferdinand in Fall/Winter to look at vocations for both boys/girls. Possible another trip to Gethsemane and Loretto and Kentucky Holy Land.

Need to use Parish Blast like the school uses, through our Parish App – for announcements and keep folks more engaged.

Have had several funerals and a wedding, with more weddings on the schedule. Baptisms are coming up soon.

Matt and Fr. Bill led a discussion regarding the signage mentioned in Karen’s report. Need signage at James R. Meder Road and Dixie at Lewiston.

Fr. Bill discussed sound system problems – need new sound board. The choir has sufficient microphones. Need more wireless mics. Noted that Mike Raymer received a bid of $5400.00. After discussion, Father asked for and received Council approval, so will move ahead with upgrading the sound system. Will take care of sound system first, then make appeal from the pulpit for contributions for signage.

Mary Doris advised some of the homebound have asked about the closed captions on the Mass, that’s not working well.

Fr. Bill said he would remind the lectors regarding using good diction at the readings.

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**SOCIAL CONCERNS**

Fr. Bill, Deacon Dave Maxwell, and Denise Ruffra are representing St. Lawrence in meetings with CLOUT (Citizens of Louisville Organized and United Together), which is an organization for Social Justice with people of Faith. Father was asked to attend an instructional meeting; hope to join by Fall of 2022.

Fr. Bill led discussion regarding issues with St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Lawrence. With the difficulties and changes in society, Father asked the Council about transferring funds to Shively Area Ministries instead of St. VdeP. Proposal to dissolve the St. Lawrence chapter of St. Vincent de Paul, and give funds to SAM. The council agreed unanimously to do that.

Next discussion was regarding Fr. Bill’s letter to the parish this week, and recent SYNOD meeting.

NDA / Religious Education / Participation at Mass / need to connect Sacramental life, not separate entities. Mentioned Holy Cross Fall Sports Uniform Mass this week. Need to find a way to hold Catholic families attending NDA responsible to attend Mass, in order to play sports. Joe Rickert added this should include all extracurricular activities, not just sports – Father agreed. Aimee Burton asked how to police this? Need coaches/parents/teachers to attend Mass. Staff will work with Ashley Titus to structure liturgy to encourage NDA kids.

Motion to adjourn made by Joe Rickert, with second by Kenny Nauert. Meeting was adjourned with David Maxwell leading all with The Lord’s Prayer.

**NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, AT 6:00 PM, IN COMMUNITY ROOM.**

Respectively submitted,

Dee Gossman