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

 **JANUARY 23, 2024 (APPROVED MARCH 19, 2024)**

STAFF/COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES AT LARGE MEMBERS

Pastor – Fr. Bill Burks (excused) George Morse (excused)

Director Youth Ministry Josh Riley (excused)

 & Faith Formation – Mike Raymer Sarah Burke

 Angela Taylor (excused)

Chairperson – Matt Rasche Danielle Wiegandt

Vice Chair – Aimee Burton Amy Wilson

 Abby Nauert

Finance Council – Emily Rickert Beth Rich

Worship – Karen Kuenzig

Planning & Maintenance – Matt Rasche Alternates:

Stewardship – Deacon David Maxwell (excused) Linda Morris

Formation – Vicki Neuner Justin Endler

Personnel Committee – Gena Rasche

NDA – Dee Dee Nauert

Booster Club – Joe Rickert (excused)

Matt Rasche welcomed everyone, especially the new members, since he wasn’t able to attend the November meeting. Opening prayer was offered by Matt. Matt asked to keep Angie Maxwell in our prayers, as she had surgery today. Also, Clara Zoeller went to heaven today, so also offer prayers for her & her family. November meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Danielle Wiegandt, second by Sarah Burke.

Matt reviewed recent discussions regarding NDA parents attending weekend Mass, and Fr. Bill’s letter sent earlier today to ask Council to discuss this issue tonight, without his presence at meeting. Fr. Bill’s main goal is being a “Eucharist First” parish. Matt reviewed the current self-reporting results. Discussion followed with Council’s agreement that families receiving the tuition discount are families who tithe, volunteer/stewardship, and attend weekend Mass, with self-reporting. Suggestion made to have Stewardship sign-up in January, every year. A self-reporting form for NDA families should be part of the Stewardship form, so tuition rate can be determined. This would help with budgeting for St. Lawrence and NDA for the next school year. There has been some confusion regarding request to fill out self-reporting from in Spring 2023 and again in November.

Council discussed how we, as Parish Council, can get people involved and wanting to come to weekend Mass, and to understand why they aren’t coming to Mass. Need to find ways to develop discipleship. Need to engage parishioners and find needs.

Mike Raymer reported on problems with 8th graders who are preparing for sacrament of Confirmation. Discussion followed with Council wondering how other parishes handle the same issue – parents wanting their children to receive Confirmation and First Eucharist, but don’t bring them to Mass.

Recommendation is that February Parish Council meeting should be open to all in parish, and asking how we can improve and get people involved in the Parish. Danielle suggested we look at a program, ***Divine Renovation***, that has worked well in a Southern Indiana parish, that a friend attends. Recommendation that we need better orientation for new members of Parish Council.

Short discussion on signage proposed at the corner of Lewiston and Joy Lovene. Matt advised a lighted sign is against ordinance and would need permission from all the neighbors. Cost estimated $12-15K. Booster Club has pledged money. Father Bill has already asked for donations for the sign, and has been added to online giving.

Emily Rickert gave short report on Finance Committee, which now consists of Emily, Joyce Nelson, Matt Young, Justin Endler, Mike Raymer. Committee met today at 5:00 and reviewed old and new income statements.

 Finance Committee making recommendation to Father that they will meet monthly; want to schedule to meet 1 week before Parish Council meeting, so can summarize meeting and report to PC. Regarding Picnic report, Emily is reaching out to Paul and Julie Davis to get their report from money room. Need to see report for each booth and all income, expenses.

Request for prayers for Randy England’s ill grandchild; also, for recent death of mother-in-law of Maintenance person, Nester Merlos (mother of NDA Spanish teacher). Meeting was adjourned with a prayer offered by Danielle Wiegandt.

**NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024. (Note: February meeting was cancelled.)**

Respectively submitted, Dee Gossman