

Congregation of the Immaculate Conception – St. Mary’s

Pastoral Council Minutes

Thursday, February 22, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.

The pastoral council will work collaboratively with pastoral leadership to prayerfully address the pastoral needs of our parish, so all may grow in faith, hope, and love.

- Present: Fr. Soja
Bill DeGroot, Chairman
Derek Parker, Vice Chairman
Bob Podnar, member
Tom Williams, member
Kathy Fabry, Trustee
- Absent: Karen Harrison, Secretary
Beth Honeycutt, member
John Bjork, member

1. Lectio Divina: Facilitator Kathy Fabry, Prayer Father Soja, Readings read by Bill & Derek, Reflection on readings.
2. Approval of last meeting minutes held on 12/21/23. Motion made by Tom Williams, 2nd Derek Parker, All in Favor, Motion carried.
3. Finance Council Updates
Discussed minutes from the January 18th Finance Council meeting. The water fountain was repaired. The Finance Council is contacting the business who installed the roof – there’s been a musty smell coming from the back classroom (past Fr Soja’s office) and suspect it may be due to water leaking somewhere. Staff are currently using something to help with the smell.
4. Discussion regarding parish administration and staff.
 - a. Pastoral exception letter by Fr. Soja was shared. The letter stated Derek is approved to be on the council, but he cannot be co-chair. Discussed the selection of a new co-chair or eliminating the position-tabled for a future date.
5. Church Directory for Parishioners
 - a. Discussed pricing. Currently have 150 members for the directory, for the directory to be free we would need 75 members to participate. Would there be enough interest to pursue? Discussed how to get feedback from members. Survey members through Parish Census Outreach?

6. Parish Census Outreach sent by Barry Metzentine of the Diocese.
 - a. Sub Committee was formed: Kathy, Derek, Tom & Bill. The committee is scheduled to meet on Thursday, February 29th at 6:00. The committee will develop a plan combining the census outreach with the parish directory. The committee will identify active and inactive parishioners which could warrant calls for the development of a more accurate list of active parishioners.
7. Volunteer Breakfast.
 - a. Date was set for September 8th, 2024.
8. Easter Week Decorating
 - a. Discussed the need for volunteers to help Yvonne Podner due to absences.
9. Replacement of Members
 - a. Discussed that a few parish council members are over their term -- John Bjork and Beth Honeycutt are the next 2 that are up to be replaced.
10. New Business
 - a. Volunteers are needed for cemetery cleanup in April and October.
 - b. Need volunteers for Easter week masses.
11. Comments
 - a. None
5. Next Meeting Date: **Thursday, April 25th at 6:00. Rescheduled to May 2, 2024**