

Congregation of the Immaculate Conception – St. Mary’s
Pastoral Council Minutes
Thursday, December 21, 2023 @ 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

Diocese Guest: Barry Metzentine

Bill DeGroot, Chairman

Derek Parker, Vice Chairman

Karen Harrison, Secretary

Beth Honeycutt, member

John Bjork, member

Tom Williams, member

Kathy Fabry, Trustee

Absent: Bob Podnar, member

1. Lectio Divina: Facilitator Kathy Fabry, Readings read by Bill & Derek, Reflection on readings.
2. Welcome to Barry Metzentine
 - a. Barry discussed his role. His role is to provide support for the Parish Council along with the offering of resources and ideas.
 - b. Barry trained Kathy in Lectio Divina.
3. Approval of Minutes from last meeting of 10/17/23. Motion made by Derek Parker, 2nd Beth Honeycutt, All in Favor, Motion carried.
4. Finance Council Updates
 - a. The new area in the cemetery has been plotted.
Funds were withdrawn from the cemetery fund. No discussion.
 - b. A new TV for Religious Ed was purchased to replace the broken one.
No discussion
 - c. \$10,000 was transferred from savings to checking as collections in October & November have been lower than expected.
Discussed if this was the 2nd consecutive time this has happened?
Very concerned if so.
5. Discussion regarding parish administration and staff
Barry led the discussion. Barry spoke of the Conflict-of-Interest clause. Gave the council options. Derek cannot be in a leadership role on the council.
A motion was made by Kathy Fabry for Derek to remain on Pastoral Council pending the Pastoral Exception letter written by Father Soja. 2nd John Bjork, All in Favor, Motion carried.

6. Pastoral Council discussion items and updates:
 - a. Review compiled Stewardship Forms –
Discussed the limited numbers turned in. Discussed how to reach out to parish members who did not fill out a form. Barry will be sending an email to help with this. Kathy took the current forms to call the parishioners who are willing to help.
 - Need for Hospitality & Outreach – roles to cover funeral meals, bake sales, soup & sandwich meal after Ash Wednesday, etc. – No Discussion
 - Cemetery Committee & Roles – No Discussion
 - b. Mary Kay Williams completed St. Mary's Facility Inventory – A Big Thank You to Mary Kay for completing the Inventory.
7. New Business:
Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
8. Council Comments:
Easter Morning Mass? Father Soja said yes that there will be a mass at St. Mary's on Easter Sunday.
Father Soja thanked the Parish Council for the 2023 year.
9. Items to add to the next Pastoral Council agenda:
Continue with Stewardship
Volunteer Celebration
10. Next Meeting Date: **Thursday, February 22nd at 6:00.**
11. Prayer: Fr. Sojo
12. Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by Kathy Fabry, 2nd John Bjork, All in Favor, Motion Carried.
Meeting Ended 7:00