

St. Martin Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, May 17, 2023

In Attendance: Father Doke; Council members Larry Lehman, Mariam Kuensting, Anne Rackers, Kristina McMichael-Schwant, Joe Pestka, Ann Schulte, Jennifer Benne, Denise Brand, and Linda Oligschlaeger; Deacons Francis Butel and Steve Kliethermes; School Principal Julie Clingman; Stewardship Chair Anne Hackman; and Finance Council Chair Bob Hackman

Not in attendance: Council members Tom Draper, Kathy Jarman, and Dwayne Clingman

An Opening Prayer was led by Father Doke.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Prior Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the April 19, 2023 Pastoral Council meeting were approved.

Pastoral Council Elections: The council was still looking for candidates for the next three (3) year term; four (4) positions were open. To date, only two (2) candidates have been identified: Chad Vocks and Kristina McMichael-Schwant. If four (4) or fewer individuals volunteer to run for the council, the individuals will be added to the council without an election. Elections will only be held if more than four (4) individuals are interested in the council.

Long Range Planning: At this point, about three hundred and thirteen (313) planning surveys were returned, which is about seventy-five percent (75%) of the parish's active families. The parish has almost eight hundred (800) registered families and about four hundred (400) of those registered regularly tithe to the parish.

Father didn't think the surveys were a good indicator of what the parish could fundraise to either remodel the current church or build a new church. Father and the Long Range Planning Committee estimated six to eight (\$6-8) million dollars could be fundraised based on the parish's last capital fundraising campaign and major remodeling project for the school. About twelve percent (12%) of the surveyed indicated they wouldn't be donating anything towards the remodel of the existing church or the building of a new church; these parishioners may be some of the approximately one hundred (100) registered families who don't tithe to or otherwise participate in the parish.

Initially, the committee had looked into expanding the existing church or building a new church to seat a thousand (1000) persons at one time. Now, the committee plans to estimate new square footage and costs for either a remodel of the existing church or a new church to seat seven hundred (700) persons plus an option to set up for an additional one hundred (100) plus persons as needed. The committee will obtain new cost estimates by working with both Architects Alliance and the architect who handled the Cathedral remodel. Updated capital fundraising and cost estimates will further indicate what options are available to the parish.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Finance Council: (Bob Hackman) The Finance Council welcomed a new member: Anne Rackers.

Meeting participants were provided with a copy of the April 2023 Profit and Loss Statement. It was noted that at the end of April 2023 or eighty-three percent (83%) of the fiscal year, ninety-five percent (95%) of the budgeted church income was collected vs. ninety-two percent (92%) of the budgeted church expenses were expended; sixty percent (60%) of the budgeted school income was collected vs. eighty percent (80%) of the budgeted school expenses were expended; ninety-two percent (92%) of the budgeted pre-kindergarten expenses were expended; and ninety percent (90%) of the budgeted extended care expenses were expended. Overall, eighty-eight percent (88%) of total income was collected vs. eighty-four percent (84%) of total expenses were expended, and so, parish total income was a little higher than budgeted and total expenses were right about on budget. However, school income as noted was significantly behind budget at this point in the year; additional money was expected from the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) program. Also as noted, total church expenses were higher than budgeted at this point in the year.

Also, it was noted that the April Statement reflected a net operating income of more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000). In comparison, in April 2022, the parish had a net operating loss of more than thirty-one thousand dollars (\$31,000). Year to date, the parish had a net operating income of more than eighty-five thousand dollars (\$85,000).

The council is still working on the parish budgets and was on schedule to have all the budgets done and approved for the next fiscal year by July 1, the start of the fiscal year.

Social Concerns: (None) There was no report from the committee.

Worship and Spiritual Life: (Mariam Kuensting) The committee won't meet again until the Fall.

School: (Principal Julie Clingman) On Friday, May 12, fourteen 8th graders graduated from St. Martin School.

The week of May 10, the school had a READ-A-THON and raised more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000) for books.

On April 27, the school had its inaugural Art Show and Auction and raised about twenty-seven hundred dollars (\$2,700). About thirty (30) individuals attended the show and action this year. The event will be held again next year.

The Home and School Board and school parents sponsored a Staff Appreciation Week for St. Martin School staff.

Cara Carel resigned from the cafeteria effective at the end of the 2022-2023 school year. The school will be looking for her replacement.

The school needs a new popcorn machine and will add the estimated expense to next year's school budget.

The school elevator broke down the week before and the expense to repair it, about nine thousand dollars (\$9,000), will also be added to next year's budget.

The cafeteria's walk-in cooler had to be repaired, and the repair was not in the school budget. Parts were ordered for the cooler.

Home and School Board: The board has five (5) individuals up for election to three (3) open positions. Next year's board President is Stephanie Stokes. Chelsea Hammann was also elected to an office on the board. The board is still looking for a Vice President which is a three (3) year commitment.

Athletic Committee: The committee still needs a liaison for basketball. The committee is looking to acquire 3D archery targets for the next school year, but it's not been determined where the targets will be stored.

Vocation Committee: (Deacon Francis Butel) Jim Schwarzer is now helping with the Vocation Committee. On May 3, Committee members met with St. Martin 7th graders, and the students took a vocations related survey.

Stewardship: (Anne Hackman) Signups for the parish picnic will be posted on the stewardship bulletin board in the church vestibule.

Deacon Brad Jones will be retraining Eucharistic Ministers. Also, new training will be held for ushers.

The parish needs additional accompanists, preferably organists, for weekend masses.

The parish is trying "family offertory" at weekend masses.

Deacon Kliethermes will be teaching the weekly PSR classes this year, which will be held between the Sunday masses and hopefully make attendance more convenient. Eleven (11) kids are registered for PSR so far. Additional PSR instructors are needed.

Carmen Samson is leading the new Youth Ministry. The ministry is for youth between 7th and 12th grades. Eight (8) youth showed up for the first meeting. The ministry is for St. Martin parishioners, but other youth are welcome.

A lawn care ministry meeting is set for May 18 in the evening.

The Stewardship catalog and forms are being redone for the next stewardship year from October-October 2023-2024. This year, each parishioner will fill out a Stewardship form which should help ensure the accuracy of the stewardship database and speed up any turnover of ministry leadership and membership. Again, stewardship signups are for one (1) year.

The first week of June, St. Martin Parish and St. Joseph Cathedral will co-sponsor a Totus Tuus day camp. The morning/day camp program is for 1st-6th graders, and the evening program from 7-9:00 pm is for 7th-12th graders. The camp is held at St. Martin. The parish needs volunteers to be available during camp times to answer any questions the camp moderators (who aren't familiar with the parish) might have and to host dinners for the camp moderators who eat at 5:30 pm before running the evening program.

Pastor Report: (Father Doke) After June 30, 2023, Father Doke will relinquish his responsibilities at the Diocesan Office and start full time as St. Martin's pastor. Father Doke has been serving part time at St. Martin since his assignment here.

The next Pastoral Council meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Anne C. Rackers.

Approved By: *F. D. Dole* Pastor

Approved By: *Larry Lehman* President