

**St. Mary's of Melrose Parish Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 28, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tricia at 6:45 PM in the gathering space at St. Mary's and Father Marv led us in the opening prayer. Attending Fr. Marv, Jane Salzl, Joe Roehrl, Jenna Middendorf, Tricia Klaphake, Troy Tomford, Harvey Middendorf, Ray Primus, Jody Wehlage, Deacon Ernie Kociemba, Bob Leukam, Autumn Nelson, Carl Worms, Gary Walz, Morgan Kempenich, Karl Funk,

Absent: Fr. Newton and Juliann Heller

Motion made and seconded to accept the agenda.

Minutes for September meeting reviewed and approved.

**Board of Education:** Autumn Nelson presenting. 3400 plus pizzas were sold. Concerns about job description of the custodian for the school. School board has questions about the replacement of Allan.

**Stewardship:** Bob Leukam presenting. Newsletter will continue monthly. Each month a parish ministry will be featured along with a parish member. Good comments have been given on the newsletter. Good comments on the September stewardship retreat November 9th--there will be a stewardship meeting for parish leadership. All leadership is encouraged to attend.

Hospitality will be provided. Following dates for presenting stewardship at weekend Masses:

November 6th-7th-- Parish update on stewardship. November 14th-15th-- Couples will speak on stewardship. November 21st-22nd--Final presentation along with card presentation.

Hospitality will be held after each Mass on that weekend. Hospitality will be held monthly from there on. Denise Kociemba coordinating at this time.

**Endowment committee:** Troy Tomford presenting. New to position. Will be exploring ways to grow the fund. Ultimate goal of the fund is to provide 20% of the operating budget but not able to achieve the goal at this time. Endowment committee will be featured in the newsletter during January.

**Liturgy:** Morgan presenting. New singing group starting. Men's group will meet on November 2nd. Discussion of scheduling of ministries on line. Will update website to make more user friendly. Usher schedule is still being mailed out as well for those who do not have computer access. Brought forward that these need to be mailed out earlier.

**Social Concerns:** Deacon Ernie presenting. Still concerns with new immigrant families and housing in the city. He is working with various groups to establish more permanent housing. Has a meeting scheduled with Jennie O Foods on November 17th.

**Hispanic Ministry:** Fr. Newton absent.

**Faith Formation:** Juliann Heller absent.

**Finance Council:** Harvey Middendorf presenting. New to position. Presented paper copy of finances. Capital Campaign will officially be closed at the end of October. The financial report

to the parish will be presented on October 30th-31st by Harvey Keller. Funeral worksheet for cost of holding wakes at the church needs to be completed. Joe Roehrl will work on this document and present at the next meeting. Tricia gave Joe a copy of the fee schedule from Sauk Centre. Church fees for weddings has been completed.

**Human Resources:** Jane Salzl and Tricia Klaphke presenting. Committee members: Diane Gruber, Melanie Wensman, Deanna Feldewerd, Lori Braegelmann, Working on a handbook for staff. Posting for Blanca Barragan position will be done.

**Cemetery Board:** Harvey Middendorf presenting. New to position. Will reach out to Mark Mayers about meeting dates.

**Charitable gambling:** Jody Wehlage presenting. Calendar Raffle underway.

**ACC:** Jane Salzl presenting. ACC did not meet.

Fr. Marv update. Parish council members given a copy of Diocese requirements for ACC. Council members are to keep this in a 3 ring binder along with the meeting minutes. These will be passed along to new council members by retiring council members. Parish council will need to decide on a new name and update all ministries for the Church. This will hopefully give a clearer definition of roles and who should be involved in the decision process.

**Building and Maintenance:** Joe Roehrl and Carl Worms: Need to see Church, school and cemetery as one campus. Inspection of the school done. Doors and windows need to be replaced. School roof was replaced in 2000. Has about 5 years life expectancy. If replaced now, the cost would be approximately \$82,000. If wait the 5 years could be \$125,000. Need to start budgeting for these expenses. Brought forth about removing the Capital Campaign from the envelope pack and replace with another type of giving option for the upkeep of the church. Stewardship should be for entire complex. Cleaning weekly continues. Maybe have a once year deep cleaning of the church. Need silverware for the catering kitchen. Refrigerator here. Kitchen being completed. Need more chairs, but cost of shipping has increased so waiting to order more at this time. Punch list continues to be worked. Roof leaks have been corrected. Floor chips need to be done. Pews need to be done. Reconciliation door needs to be done. Entrance monument (signage). Drawing presented and motion made to accept drawing. Butch Haider is getting bids on the same. CORRECTED; School roof was replaced in 2000 for \$82,000 and had a projected life expectancy of 25 years., with 5 years life remaining. To replace the roof today would cost \$185,000 and the price increases approximately 5% each year, with a then projected cost of 225,000 to 250,000

**Communication Committee:** Parish council wondering about the role of the communication committee. Father clarified that the Parish Council needs to present to the Communication Committee what needs to be communicated to the parish members and the CC will handle the communication.

**New Business:** Projection screens. Need to use more than we do, Will be putting pictures of various groups and ministry on the screens so parishioners are more acquainted with the various groups. Also will use to give information to the parish. Possibly using for some meditation before church.

Lights for the trees: Mark Heidgerken willing to do the lights. Is it OK for this to be done. All in agreement that this should be done.

Playing of music before Mass to allow quiet time but fill the silence.

Bob Leukam would like to have a Parish festival. This would not be a bazaar but a gathering to stay connected and be more of a community. Will continue with discussion

**Old Business:** Christmas tree for gift giving to the church for specific needs. Examples of possible items on the tree: silverware, snowplowing one time, cleaning supplies etc. Will check with Juliann about using one tree for Faith Formation and this project. Jane Salzl will take care of the items on the tree .

Appointing of Vice Chair: Joe Roehrl nominated Jane Salzl and 2nd was Tricia Klaphake. All in favor of Jane being Vice Chair.

Using of Google Calendar-- Would like this to be used for scheduling of meetings. Morgan will see if she can give more people access to scheduling.

Adjournment at 9:45 PM Motion by Ray Primus and second by Jody Wehlage. The next meeting is December 1st at 6:45 PM. Location to be determined.

Submitted by Eileen Maus --Parishioner