

St. Matthew Parish Council Minutes  
6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024

## **Roll Call**

**In attendance:** Jenny Bruce, Betsy Burke, Tom Dempsey, Chris Dobrota, Rick Gale, Christine Gann, Tom Jones, Bob Kowal, Mary Marsh, Dan Murphy, Victor Neff, Pat O'Brien, David Smock, Father Bill Stumpf, Phyllis Mahoney

**Absent:** Beth Desalvo, Nick McCallum, Kate Thedwall, Ann Tully.

## **Opening Prayer**

Jenny Bruce.

## **Comments from the President**

Pat O'Brien said our focus for the next few meetings will be the Pastoral Plan.

## **Approval of the minutes**

Chris Dobrota moved to approve the minutes. Mary Marsh seconded. The minutes were approved.

## **New Business**

### **Finance Commission Overview.**

Victor Neff said the commission is looking for a School Commission member to join. The Finance Commission meets monthly on the third Wednesday each month. Judy Good provides the monthly financial statements, and the commission reviews them.

We exceeded our budget for collections last year. If we were to match what was contributed last year, we would exceed our budget for the coming year. Father Bill said we received a year-end contribution early this month, which will put us ahead.

At the end of our fiscal year, we had \$348,000 in net income.

The weekend of Oct. 12, Neff will give the financial talk to the parish. On one side, we will list the financial info, and on the other, our accomplishments as a parish.

Our cash position is the strongest it's been in five years.

### **Stewardship Commission**

Jenny Bruce said we have a lot of new parish members, and they often live somewhat far from St. Matthew. The Welcome Committee has been delivering bags to new members at their homes, which has meant a lot of driving around town. The committee thought instead they might do a welcome Sunday to welcome new members.

Tom Dempsey said they used to do a Welcome Sundae (with ice cream).

Bruce said the group wanted to get a feel for what the council thought about a welcome Sunday. The council supported the idea.

### **Pastoral Plan**

Pat O'Brien said Sandi Patel plans to come to one of our meetings. She sent a survey to the council to help plan for her time with us.

The council thought we should plan for the November meeting.

Father said we have accomplished a lot of our Pastoral Plan goals already.

The council agreed it would be nice to really get started on year two.

Dan Murphy said he spent 3½ years in brand marketing. He presented his ideas about a way to look at the Pastoral Plan to the council. His presentation took ideas from the Pastoral Plan and presented them in a concise way that focuses on five pillars and reasons to believe them.

### **Oktoberfest**

Volunteers were still needed. The gym is the contingency plan in case of bad weather.

### **Closing prayer**

Victor Neff