

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 6, 2024

AT-LARGE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Alt, Lori Bernard, Mike Essen, Alan Gerken, Karen Kovacs, Brian Linnemann, Nick Roos, Brian Schmutte, Kris Schoettmer

AT-LARGE MEMBERS ABSENT: Mikey Disbennett, Bridget Eichhold, Greg Hardig

CLERGY IN ATTENDANCE: Fr. Tom Mannebach, Fr. David Tran

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mary Dadosky, Donna Frazee, Rick Fulks, Angie Heisel

CALL TO ORDER: President Brian Schmutte

OPENING PRAYER: Brian Schmutte

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS PASTORAL COUNCIL (PC) MEETING MINUTES:

Brian Linnemann made a motion to approve the January 2024 PC meeting minutes as amended this evening. He was seconded by Mike Essen. Motion passed unanimously.

SCHOOL UPDATE:

Principal Heisel reported.

- 1) **Catholic Schools Week:** Catholic Schools Week was held the last week in January. It included plenty of school spirit, service projects, and fun activities. The Open House was well-attended.
- 2) **Enrollment 2024-25:** New Student enrollment is concluding. Headcount looks to meet or exceed this year's enrollment. Several grades are closed with waiting lists. A definition of current enrollment categories is on the school website.
- 3) **EdChoice Expansion Scholarship:** There are only 29 applications remaining under review. Approximately 130 students are ineligible to apply, because they live out of state, or they are currently receiving funds through the Ohio Autism/Jon Peterson Scholarships or the classic EdChoice program.
- 4) **Tuition 2024-25:** A tuition increase is planned for 2024-25. A Parish Grant/Scholarship program is being rolled out to provide support for families who will not qualify for EdChoice monies. Funds brought in through the SGO state tax credit program will also be available for tuition assistance.
- 5) **School Budget 2024-25:** Mrs. Heisel will be meeting with Finance Council in 2 weeks to finalize the 2024-25 School Budget.
- 6) **Transitioning to FACTS Management for Tuition Payments:** The FACTS Management automated system will be used next year to manage tuition payments.
- 7) **School Calendar 2024-25:** The school has opted to switch from "School of Faith" to different programming opportunities for ongoing teacher faith-formation. As a result, there will be far less teacher in-service days needed, so the school year will begin in late August and finish by the end of May.

FINANCE COUNSEL (FC) UPDATE:

Rick Fulks reported.

1) Financials for the 5 Months Ended 12/31/23:

a) Parish Actual Net Income: \$244,000

Parish Budgeted Net Income: \$92,000

The actual results are approximately \$152,000 better than budget, mainly due to the following:

- i.) Sunday Collection is slightly above budget (\$860,000 actual vs. \$847,000 budget).
- ii.) The Christmas Collection was \$28,000 below budget (\$32,000 actual vs. \$60,000 budget); however, we did receive almost \$7000 in Christmas donations in January.
- iii.) IggyFest 23 Net proceeds were \$48,000 above budget (\$183,000 actual vs. \$135,000 budget).
- iv.) Total Expenses of \$897,000 are approximately \$125,000 below budget.

b) School Actual Net Loss: (\$917,000)

School Budgeted Net Loss: (\$134,000)

The actual results are \$783,000 worse than plan. However, the entire difference in the school's actual vs. budgeted results can be attributed to the implementation of the EdChoice program and the lag time between acceptances and scholarship disbursements:

- i.) Through 12/31, \$1.6 million in K-8 tuition was collected, vs. the budgeted amount of \$2.5 million (over \$900,000 difference). EdChoice funds are beginning to arrive to the school in much greater numbers, and are projected to recoup the deficit of the initial months of the school year.
- ii.) Preschool tuition is very close to budget (\$168,000 actual vs. \$164,000 budget).
- iii.) Facilities expenses of \$212,000 are approximately \$70,000 less than budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Introduction of New Director of Finance and Administration: Mary Dadosky has come on board as the parish's Director of Finance and Administration, with oversight of financial operations and human resources. She was introduced to and spoke with PC about her goals and priorities. Chief among them are: connecting the parish and school into one community, and streamlining administrative processes to allow Fr. Mannebach to focus on his priestly functions.

2) Pastoral Council Structure:

a) Discussion: PC continues discussion on its scope and function in light of the Beacons of Light (BOL) process and recommendations for parish pastoral councils. Last year, the "Assembly of Leaders" model (AOL), a broad-based leadership group incorporating members from every parish ministry and commission, was heavily discussed at several PC meetings over the course of the year. President Schmutte, who is very supportive of the AOL model, asked how it would align with BOL guidelines. Fr. Mannebach indicated that the BOL guidelines provide a model for those Families of Parishes trying to streamline from multiple pastoral councils to 1 council for the entire Family. St. Ignatius is a Single-Site Family, so we don't necessarily have the same considerations.

- b) **Vision, Mission, Pastoral Priorities:** Pastoral staff continue work on a preliminary parish “vision statement.” Once this is complete, work can begin on a new parish “mission statement,” as well as defining 5-year pastoral priorities. Restructuring PC into another configuration (such as AOL) might follow from that.
- c) **PC Elections:** In the current structure, 4 PC members are due to finish their terms in June and will need to be replaced. PC’s current Bylaws indicate that if elections are used as the recruitment vehicle, that process needs to ramp up in March with a call for nominations, published candidate bios, and an election held on the 3rd Sunday in May.

PASTOR’S COMMENTS:

1) Beacons of Light (BOL) Update:

- a) The Deanery Convocation Meetings for Pastoral Councils were so successful that general information sessions of a similar nature are being planned across the Archdiocese of Cincinnati (AOC) for all parishioners to attend. Sites will again be grouped by deanery. St. Ignatius belongs to the St. James Deanery-A, and its meeting will take place on February 7, from 7:00-8:30pm, at Elder High School.
- b) Fr. Mannebach recently attended a meeting of Archdiocesan Deans. One issue that priests are encountering in the BOL process is the misperception that the AOC is attempting to force mergers and closures of parishes. Rather, each Family of Parishes is being asked to provide by 2027 a plan of staff and ministries for that Family that will comprehensively address the core BOL areas of Worship, Faith Formation, Evangelization & Outreach, and Stewardship. Any decisions about changes to property and finances remain at the local level and are to be discerned by the Families themselves.

2) Deanery Confirmations: In his role as Dean of St. James-A, Fr. Mannebach administered the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. John the Baptist-Harrison in January and will be doing the same later this month at St. James-White Oak.

3) World Marriage Weekend: Our parish’s celebration of World Marriage Weekend will occur on Sunday, February 11. All married couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, and 60th wedding anniversaries this year will be honored at the 12 Noon Mass, followed by a reception in Loyola Hall.

4) RCIA Rite of Sending/Rite of Election: Our Catechumens and Candidates will participate in the Rite of Sending at the 12 Noon Mass at St. Ignatius, then the Rite of Election and Continuing Conversion with Archbishop Schnurr (or his delegate) at the cathedral on Sunday, February 18.

5) Parish Lenten Mission: This year’s Lenten Mission will take place on the evenings of February 22, 29, and March 14. Dr. Kenneth Craycraft, a Moral Theology professor at Mt. St. Mary’s Seminary and School of Theology, will be speaking on Catholic Social Teaching.

6) Continuation of the Youth Ministry Program: Fr. Tran is coordinating the parish’s Youth Ministry program while the parish conducts its search for a new Youth Minister.

7) Priest Life Committee: Fr. Tran also serves on the archdiocesan Priest Life Committee, which is planning the celebration for Archbishop Schnurr’s 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. The celebration will occur on July 28.

CLOSING PRAYER: Nick Roos

NEXT MEETING: March 5, 2024, at 7 PM, in the School Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Frazee
Pastoral Council Recording Secretary