**ST. DAMIAN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, April 18, 2023, 7:00 PM**

**2022-23 PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS**: President – Adam Fuehne, Vice President – Mech Toennies, Secretary - Denise Luitjohan

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**: Adam Fuehne, Denise Luitjohan, Kay Toennies, Mech Toennies, Norm Horstmann, Marvin Wuebbels, Florence Jansen.

**EX-OFFCIO**: Father Steven Beatty, Deacon Kevin Templin(absent), Deacon Glenn Netemeyer, Arlene Korte, Virgil Jansen.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT**: Salvador Tehandon, Shannon Sanders

**GUESTS:** Al Varel, Dustin Nail, Anita Rakers

**OPENING**: Father Steven opened the meeting with a prayer.

**PARISH LIFE:** Nominations for new Parish Council members, Shannon Sanders, Marvin Wuebbels and Salvador Tehandon, will be held on May 6th and the election/voting will be on May20th.

**FR BEATTY:** We had the first night of the 99 Mission, for the two nights there were approximately 100 people in attendance.

**DEACON/FAITH FORMATION REPORT:** Vacation Bible school is planned for June 12th- June 16th. The Balloon Rosary will be held again but a date has not been set.

**BUILDING & MAINTENANCE:**

The wire between the annex and the church was flagged by the fire department for being too low, the bid came in at $32,075.00, Ameren has been contacted and they will put up 2 poles one by the street and the other on the west side of the gym. This will be at $0.00 The Church bells are fixed. The current schedule for the bells is 6:00 AM until 10:00 PM. Southwest corner of the ceiling that has the water damage has also been completed.

Dustin Nail reported that the school will be replacing 3 doors in the gymnasium and the windows in the kitchen. These repairs will be paid for from the matching grant that the school had acquired. Also, they will be updating the furnace in the school cafeteria since it is not up to fire code due to having an open flame. They will be updating this to include A/C, this is being paid for by the PTO.

Al Varel reported that Ben Pingsterhaus has patched the Rectory roof many times and it still has issues, he is looking into a rubber roof. A work day for the church grounds and the cemetery will be held on May 20th starting at 7:00 AM. One item to be addressed is cleaning the head stones.

**OLD BUSINSS:** Virgil Jansen has composed a letter to the Bishop stating his concerns over St. Damian’s being assessed $7000 for students that belong to our Parish and attend All Saints Academy. Anita Rakers, Virgil and Arlene had a meeting with Mr. Birdsong, the Diocesan Superintendent of Schools and discussed this issue. Mr. Birdsong assured them that the policy is under review and is aware that St. Damian’s is in a unique position due to the fact that our parish has been designated as the site for the Hispanic Mass on Sundays.

**NEW BUSINESS**:

**ADJOURNMENT:** Father Steven closed the meeting with a prayer.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 7:00PM

**Minutes taken by Denise Luitjohan**

**As always, all parish council meetings are open to the public. Please inform the parish secretary if you would like to speak to a topic or voice a concern so it can be added to the agenda.**