

1. Date: 2.26.24
2. Finance Council Meeting Notes
3. All Present: Fr. Biju, Pete Benzing, Louisa Peterson, Rachel Persson, Mark Nicolai, Brandon Flock, Gary Flock, Leo Leis and Melissa Schaub.
4. Notes recorded by Rachel Persson
1. Opening Prayer @6:49pm led by Fr. Biju.
2. Additional Agenda – started late due to leak in basement cleanup. Added this for discussion during building projects.
3. Approve December Meeting Minutes – all read and no changes. Motioned for approval by Louisa, seconded by Leo. All approved.
5. Review December and January finances – Louisa questioned the balance discrepancy between sauerkraut supper profits and the amount the ladies of the parish donated to the general fund. Melissa explained that this was due to them not doing a cash donation last year so that's why the amount was larger this year. Louisa motioned for approval, seconded by Leo, approved by all.
6. Updates from Father
  - a. Inspire by Spirit Campaign and Annual Appeal – we have roughly \$40K received from the pledges for the Inspired by the Spirit campaign. Annual Appeal ends June 30, and as it stands now we are roughly \$5k short of that goal.
  - b. Finance Updates (quota) – the reason for the increase in amount for the quota was that we simply had an increase in donations in the previous fiscal year. This goes up and down in accordance with the amount of funds collected, but is not determined by the amount of envelop holders or registered families. Some of this may come back to us in the form of grants.
  - c. Social Justice Department call – Fr. Received a call from this department in the diocesan office asking about what we do for social justice volunteering. The ladies had a meeting some time ago and have since implemented a new “Caring for Elders” plan led by LaVonne Hundt and Kelsey Flock. Fr. Will contact them for more information if needed.
7. Updates on Action Items
  - a. Sanctuary ceiling repair - Done
  - b. Asbestos removal – Done
  - c. Building projects/repair –
    - 1) East door repair was tabled for a later time. Pete can update on that when he is back.
    - 2) Surveyor is hoping to finally make headway sometime soon.
    - 3) NEW: Rachel to look into someone to snake the drain to prevent it from backing up into the kitchen.
8. Secretarial updates from Melissa – nothing really new. Attended that financial seminar virtually and learned about the diocese changing their financial brokerage to Trustpoint. New change will go into effect this year. Mark Gronemus should be notified as this affects the Cemetery's funds. No other updates.
9. New Items
  - a. Basement ramp – Mark still looking into ADA requirements. Rachel to get quotes for both doors and lift placements.
  - b. Fund Raising Committee – now comprised of Rachel Persson, Sarah Gronemus, and Duane Leis. Maybe adding one more person, but looking to keep it small. Proposals for fundraisers will come to the finance committee via email and written out in advance with proposed date/content/etc. so the committee can vote.
  - c. Basement door – was left open again. We really need a handle on the inside so that it can be pulled shut.

- d. Bank Rates – Louisa wants to leave about 2-3 months worth of expenses in the account and then transfer the rest to the savings account at St. Ambrose for the better interest rate. That would be roughly \$30K. motioned by Louisa, seconded by Leo, approved by all.
  - 1) The guest envelopes have paid for themselves. Need to add an announcement before Mass along the lines of: “Welcome to all guests and visitors. We are glad you are here. If you would like to support this parish, envelopes for guests can be found in the end of your pews.
  - 2) All agreed that there is no need for Melissa to prepare a “financial appendix”, she can just run the “Statement of financial position”
10. Pastoral Committee Report – No update from Pete.
11. Cemetery Committee Report – we have about \$2500 in donations to fix more headstones. Before and after images planned to show the parish how valuable this is.
12. Schedule Next Meeting – Monday, April 29, 2024 at 6:30pm in the church basement.
13. Closing Prayer
14. Adjourned at 7:33pm.

To-do's:

- Rachel to get quote for the lift for both doors.
- Rachel to find someone to snake the drain ideally pro bono.
- Melissa to add sign in the upstairs bathroom asking people to flush twice.
- Melissa to add note in the announcements about the guest envelopes.