

Date: 6.13.23

Title: Finance Council Meeting

All Present: Fr. Biju, Pete Benzing, Rachel Persson, Louisa Peterson, Mark Nicolai, Brandon Flock, Gary Flock, Leo Leis and Melissa Schaub.

Notes recorded by Rachel Persson

1. Called to order at 6:36pm with Opening Prayer
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 25, 2023
 - a. No questions were raised, motioned for approval by Pete, seconded by Brandon and approved by all.
3. Additions to Agenda
 - a. Light switch in sacristy by the door (see below)
4. Review of April and May Expense Reports.
 - a. Pete asked what "SAFS" stood for: Saint Ambrose Financial Services
 - b. Gary asked about breakdown of collections from April and Melissa explained that it was all itemized out in the second column.
 - c. Rachel asked about the Madonna Hundt Memorial Fund was donated for a total of \$1000 and the family is waiting to decide what they want to do with those funds.
 - d. She also asked about "Parish Quota" and it is a monthly payment we make to the diocese for the number of envelope holders in the church.
 - e. Louisa wondered about the bill from Allied and Melissa explained that we had replaced a regulator and did the summer fill promotion and that's why it was a bigger bill.
 - f. Discussion of new wifi and Melissa is satisfied with the service. We likely will receive one final bill from Brightspeed in the next month before being finally done.
 - g. Motioned for approval by Louisa, seconded by Mark and passed in unison.
 - I. Melissa also reviewed checks to be paid out so that we did not have to do via email. All approved.
 - II. Final note: we should receive the check from the diocese reimbursing us for the new printer in this month.
5. Updates from Father
 - a. Annual Appeal goal has been met. Inspired by the Spirit is at 58% of the goal coming from only 16 families of the parish.
 - b. Tower fan was decided upon. We will purchase one from Menards and wait to see how the installation of the new ceiling fan (see disc. Below) will affect the need for others. Melissa will go to Menards to get the new fan and send in the rebate form.
 - c. Other: Chris wants to buy the old printer to have in his office at the Shrine. Discussion of his time and talent donations to the church, and all agreed that he should purchase it for \$1 so that there is a paper trail proving it's his. In case he ever quits his job at the Shrine, we want him to be able to take it home with him after that. Melissa will issue him a receipt for it.
6. Updates on Action Items
 - a. Ceiling Repairs – all paperwork is approved and per Pete, we are just waiting

on Poellinger to start the work. Unsure when that will be.

- b. Lot Line – nothing from the survey people, but since they are doing it at a discount for us, that was to be expected. All paperwork has been done and there should be no issues moving forward.
 - c. Church Calendars will be ordered as-is with no sponsorship sought. Melissa talked to Mike and Brandon and they decided that this was best. There will be an extra \$12-ish charge this year as we have to update the phone number on them.
 - d. Asbestos abatement – Mike is waiting on a quote from his contact. Melissa mentioned we should check with the diocese because they have their own special person who is approved to work on these projects. We are unsure if this person is an inspector only or a GC as well.
 - e. Visitor Donation Envelopes – Brandon is waiting on the quote and when he gets it will update the committee.
 - f. Building projects/repair
 - I. West Door and bell tower – Since Kurt Janzen’s son was in an accident, Mike will be following up with Paul Spaeth on the poured wall. Gary will wait a few weeks to touch base with Kurt and see if he still wants to work on the bell tower. If he is not interested, we will pursue other avenues.
 - II. East door – Rachel waited too long to send info to her woodworking friend. Quote is forthcoming.
 - III. Rectory porch windows – need to be scraped, puttied and the lead casing needs repairs. Gary is on it.
 - IV. Light switch in rectory by the door: Mark will look at it.
 - V. Mega-Fan update: Mark and Mike are still researching price. Need specs of the space before deciding on a size and getting an official quote. All agreed we want this done before August’s heat arrives. Mike volunteered via email to cover the cost of the fan and the cost of fabricating a steel frame for it. The group decided we did not need to vote on the project for approval since funding was secured already.
7. Secretarial items: no updates.
 8. Pastoral Committee report: not meeting til July; no updates.
 9. Cemetery Committee given by Leo Leis
 - a. Leo has spoken with quite a few families who are interested in fixing their headstones from deceased relatives.
 - b. His repairman had planned to come next week, but that depends on weather, as it is supposed to be extra hot. Waiting on the compound to do the repairs.
 - c. Melissa has been and will continue to put a blurb in the bulletin monthly about the headstone situation. We plan to show before and after images of headstone repairs.
 10. New Business:
 - a. Pete and Gary will work together to create a comprehensive list of small

repairs for the church. This will be shared in bulletins and posted in the back of church with who to contact if people are willing to help.

- b. Some discussion about removing a dead pine tree from the back rectory yard. No decision reached.
 - c. Gary asked for a new chairperson, as he was planning to be done by the end of the year. Pete suggested we get through a budget planning meeting before the new person takes over and Mark Nicolai said he would be willing to chair. Rachel said she will stay as recorder for the new chair as well.
 - d. Note to add budget planning items to next agenda, and that Rachel will not be present. Louisa agreed to take notes in her stead temporarily.
11. Schedule next meeting – Set for 6:30pm on August 22, 2023.
12. Closing prayer and motion to adjourn was at 7:41pm. Motioned by Mark, seconded by Louisa. Meeting Adjourned.

NOTE:

We forgot an update from the previous meeting on the following item:

- 13. NEW: Pete added that we now have a bat problem in the church attic with enough of them to leave droppings all over. We already have DeBoer spray for beetles bi-annually, so Melissa will get a quote to see if they can handle the bats as well. If not, we will pursue other avenues.