

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Finance Council Meeting Minutes

September 30, 2020

Members Present: Fr. Ryan Harpole, Dcn. Larry Conrad, Bayne Million, Kathryn Kemp, Steve Thornton, Chris Vowels, and John Winstead

Members Absent: None

Call to Order

Bayne Million, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with Fr. Ryan Harpole offering the opening prayer.

Request for a Secretary

Bayne requested a volunteer to serve as Secretary of the Finance Council and take the meeting minutes. Chris Vowels volunteered for the position, which was unanimously accepted.

Review of August Financial Statements

The Council reviewed the August 2020 financial reports. Regular collections were up 14% over August 2019; however, it was noted that there were five weekends this year compared to last year. Expenses were reasonably consistent with the prior year, except for Ministries, Faith Formation, Education, and Church Expenses. This category decreased by 71% due to the lack of activities going on because of COVID. Overall, the net loss for August was \$3,685 compared to \$14,190 last year.

Rental Properties Update

Fr. Ryan gave an update on the remaining rental property. As the leases on the individual units expire, the leases will not be renewed, with the intent to close up the building at year-end. The building will then be razed and the lot graveled.

Diocese of Owensboro Disciples Response Fund

Fr. Ryan announced the annual Disciples Response Fund appeal will be held on October 17 and 18. Rather than having a four to five-week lead-in, the Parish will merely provide the Bishop's appeal letter and the donation cards at each of the Masses that weekend.

RENEW

Bayne and Fr. Ryan updated the Finance Council on several aspects of the RENEW Project.

- Restoration Update – The exterior brickwork is about a month ahead of schedule, while the current work on the Church's subfloor is almost complete. In the parish hall, a polyurethane topcoat will be applied to provide a protective finish. Beginning the weekend of October 10/11, Masses will be held in the Church for approximately six weeks, after which scaffolding will be installed. Conrad Schmidt will then begin painting the interior of the Church on January 4, 2021.

- CARES Act – Bayne shared a one-page summary of the CARES Act drafted by Generis to educate parishioners on various tax incentives for donating to the RENEW Capital Campaign.
- RENEW Pledges – The Council reviewed a recap of pledges versus payments prepared by Jane Browning. In summary:
 - 14 families/parishioners had pledged \$61,200 but have not paid anything to-date.
 - 98 families had not pledged anything, but they have paid \$32,063 to-date.
 - 37 families have pledged and fully paid amounts of \$1,239,230.
 - 192 families have pledged a total of \$3,011,130, with \$789,848 of that amount paid to-date.
 - 726 families have neither pledged nor paid anything to-date. Notwithstanding this, there is a substantial amount of cash given by anonymous individuals each week. For the weekend of September 27, 2020, there was \$684 of unidentified cash given to the RENEW account. Assuming this is the average each week, then this would amount to over \$140,000 donated anonymously over a four-year period.
- Parishioner Outreach – As we approach the one-year anniversary of the RENEW Pledge Weekend, Generis developed a plan to communicate the Capital Campaign’s status and celebrate the \$2,000,000 collected so far. Based on the pledged/paid groupings above, different letters could be drafted to send to the distinct groups. For example, letters could be sent to the first group reminding them of their commitment to pay, while a different letter could be sent to the second group asking for further donations. Also, the Council discussed holding an Open House to celebrate the progress thus far. Various ideas were considered given the COVID limitations on the size of gathering.
- Grant Applications – Lauren Yates with Generis and Kathleen Baumgarten with St. Joseph’s are working on writing and applying for grants with various foundations, including the Houchens Foundation, among others.
- Parish Mission Statement – Since a mission statement is usually required when seeking grants, the Parish Council is working to create a short, concise statement.

October Meeting Date

The Finance Council will hold its next meeting on October 28, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in the rectory.

Adjourn

With there being no further discussion, Fr. Ryan adjourned the meeting with a closing prayer at 7:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Vowels
Secretary