

# Church of Saint Joseph, St Joseph, MN

## Finance Council Meeting Notes

Wednesday, August 10, 2022

6:30 pm

Heritage Hall

### Attendance:

A/P	Name	A/P	Name
P	Rick Baron, Trustee - phone	P	Ashley Fink
P	Dede Budde, Trustee	P	Cathy Posch
P	Amber Walling, Business Administrator	P	Chuck Kern
P	Fr. Brad, Pastor	A	Sandy Scholz
P	Dan Whippler, Chair	A	Sandy Stocker
P	Gary Dietman	P	Steve Meyer, Pastoral Council
P	Gary Bechtold		

Item	Action	Presenter	Notes
1. Welcome		Dan	Meeting began at 6:30 pm
2. Prayer		Dan	Dan opened with prayer
3. Introductions		All	
4. Past 3 years handout		Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dan outlined the events of the past three years in context with COVID, mass changes, finances, unexpected medical events with staff, unexpected building expenses – some highlights discusses are below:</li> <li>Drop from 50k range per weekend in 2020-21 to 40k in 2022</li> <li>2020 achievements – 200k reserve (3m worth of expenses) and successful raffle (87k)</li> <li>Dan very pleased with parishioners, leadership in parish, and growth of people – has been essential to the financial success of the parish</li> </ul>
5. Bobcat		Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change in facilities manager may be an opportunity to upgrade the parish Bobcat for ease of use. Budget did not include full-time facilities manager and the need for hiring snow removal. The bobcat was purchased for 17k but now worth 17.5k.</li> <li>Consensus was to move forward with trading up the bobcat—cost prior to trade-in is \$30 to 32k</li> </ul>
6. Review Financial Reports		Amber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark and Mary hired</li> <li>Upcoming major expenses                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cemetery software upgrade is an expense of the cemetery committee (one quote was \$400/month)</li> <li>Most building expenses have been put in the budget</li> <li>Communications plans will be described by Amber in the near future to the finance and parish councils</li> </ul> </li> <li>Year-End Income Information:</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Graphs for the offering – close to budget but on a downward trend</li> <li>○ Income statement – 1.4% down for ordinary income (prior year down 22-25k)</li> <li>○ Did send mailing for Central Minnesota Catholic Magazine – usually 4k income</li> <li>○ Finance Council had previously made decision to not pull funds from education endowment</li> <li>○ Utility bills were larger than expected</li> <li>● Staffing and programming changes are very promising</li> <li>● Amber will send out diocesan report to Finance Council</li> <li>● Printed annual report will go out to the parish the week of August 22<sup>nd</sup></li> </ul> <p>July 4<sup>th</sup> festival results: ~147k</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Concerns about lack of volunteers, no backup plan if something happens to primary leaders/chairs</li> <li>● Discussed the need to cut down on the setup (i.e. fewer tents, hire out some of the work)</li> </ul> <p>Discussion about festival:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Gary – how are decisions made about the festival? Should the stand chairs be driving the ship or should we include the parish in making the decisions? At present, co-chairs are making proposal, then communicating with stand-chairs.</li> <li>● Amber – sustainability of festival is in flux</li> <li>● Steve – can we get community involved</li> <li>● Gary – volunteering is problematic and eventually people will not volunteer</li> <li>● Steve – motivation for purchasing raffle tickets declines (Melrose was an example)</li> <li>● Will revisit the festival communication in September</li> </ul>
7. Gary		Education alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Goal to help raise additional dollars to help families afford catholic educations</li> <li>● Fundraising dinner and a couple other fun events throughout the year</li> <li>● Money previously raised is currently in a restricted account (50k left)</li> <li>● \$950 will move from the education alliance checking account into the parish-parish managed education alliance account</li> <li>● Should education alliance funds be used for members of the parish? We had a brief discussion about how this money should be used to benefit members of the parish who want to send kids to catholic school.</li> </ul>
8. School Tuition			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Still some hesitation about how school tuition has changed – Dede mentioned a family discouraged talked to her at the festival, some families moving to other schools as a result</li> <li>● Discussion about supporting families of the parish. There is no easy and immediate answer.</li> <li>● Amber mentioned that the enrollment challenges with families of the parish is also likely linked to poor communication between the parish and school. There has been a lack of consistency and communication</li> </ul>

			from the school administration this past year and the turnover in school staff/admin has been detrimental.
9. Meeting Closed with Prayer		Dan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dan closed the meeting at 8:02pm with the Our Father prayer.</li> </ul>
10. Minutes			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes submitted by Ashley Fink</li> </ul>