

## Church of St Mary's Finance Council Minutes February 21, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Olson, Todd Wentworth, Mike Dolan, Jim Megel, Randy Kinney, Francie Peterson, Angela Doty, Doreen Bartos, Fr. Matthew, Mark Maloney.

Guest: Kevin Becker

Chair Craig O. called the meeting to order.

OPENING PRAYER – lead by Todd W.

Minutes of previous meeting approved as printed.

Agenda approved with having Kevin B present on church windows first, and adding St Mary's School Tuition in Old Business.

### STANDING BUSINESS

1. Financial Reports: January good month, Offerings were \$38K over budget for month, and YTD, and \$58K ahead of last year. "Other" donations well ahead of budget. Total Income YTD well above budget and last year. Expenses – good shape, most in-line, quick review, added 4436 Interparish Subsidies & Scholarships, and 5426 Transportation - mostly offset by their tuition. Financial Position good with note at \$1,006K, going under \$1M in February. Financial reports approved as presented.
2. Father Alexander P. Ludwig Benevolent Fund; No requests now. \$762k balance.
3. Facilities
  - a. Parish House (Rectory); started off meeting with watching of new video made of Fr Matt in current Jefferson Street house / rectory. This video will be released – posted to St Mary's FB and included in email blast this week. Positive feedback was received after updates made at weekend masses. Parish office contacted with a few possible opportunities but we are not able to act yet. Discussed next steps and reviewed the rectory motion made at January meeting. Agreed that next step is for Todd to submit the simple application to Diocesan Finance Committee as their next quarterly meeting is in March. This is expected to give us permission to proceed at a maximum of \$575,000 total spend. FC will still need to make decisions and approval of the housing option moved forward by the Rectory Subcommittee. Subcommittee should be encouraged to ask for parishioner feedback if minimal comments are received.
  - b. School kitchen cooler/freezer expansion; Todd has received 3 proposals and quotes to date. He hopes to review these and present options at the March FC meeting.
  - c. Church windows; (presented by Kevin Becker at beginning of meeting): Kevin addressed condition of the upper church windows, being the 8 Dormer windows and the 2 large Diamond-shaped windows, with these now being installed for 27 years. The Dormer windows appear to just be addressed as a PM now (needing some TLC), replacing the weather stripping / seals and new gaskets. Window frames are expected to be ok as these windows are able to drain out after heavy rains. To do the PM work, roof scaffolding is not adequate, so will need to bring in a crane / lift basket for access. The Diamond windows have design issues that was addressed in 2012, but not corrected at that time. Kevin stated that they were thought to need PM's every 5-7 years but has not been done since 2012. The design issue with these windows is that the rainwater is not allowed to drain out to the exterior adequately. These have curtainwall framing but unable to determine if membrane exists behind the window as

drawings show, if it is high enough, or is now compromised since during heavy rains water has come inside and drained through the slanted ceiling. Unsure if water is getting into the cavity and affecting the steel structure. Aware that a letter was sent to HGA, the original firm, in the 2012 timeframe but unable to locate any record of it at this time. Need to research long-term solution. Possibly involve a water intrusion expert? Next step should be to contact original firm HGA, asking for verification of window installation details and ask for new design options since water has infiltrated numerous times. Todd W and Kevin B will work on communication to HGA.

4. Stewardship
  - a. Legacy Dinner; discussed thoughts on having this event again in 2024. Likely timeframe of October. Todd's thoughts are to use some Fr Al Funds again, and maybe include portion in next FY budget. FC agreed with investigate cost, venues, etc and report back.
5. Parish Outreach; No report
- ~~6. Parish Raffle Ticket (May-Oct)~~
7. St. Mary's of Alexandria Catholic Foundation – Jim M.
  - a. Fr. Al Ludwig Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Met 2/16/24. Balances as of 1/31/24 were \$769k Unrestricted and \$422k Scholarship fund. 2023 earnings of \$88k Unrestricted and \$64k Scholarship fund. 2023 spending was \$5166 in grants and \$16000 in scholarships. \$149,946 available to award in 2024. May need to revisit awarding rules as fund is growing faster than spending. Inception-to-date awards of \$123k and earnings of \$195k.
8. St. Mary's Catholic School Trust Fund of Alexandria, Minnesota; No report
9. Pastoral Council; Randy K started discussion on how best to relay info back and forth, questioned how to share FC minutes since typically not yet approved by council meeting time. Agreed that unapproved minutes should not be shared. Verbal update likely best. Commented that brief mention of school tuition was made at council meeting, and that 25 more tickets for Eucharistic Congress were sold following Josh's mass speak.

#### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

1. Finance Council members; Todd reported that Fr Matt recommended to keep FC committee as is with current 5 At-Large members, 1 Pastoral Council liaison, and 2 Trustees for a total of 8 voting members. Todd (Parish Adm) would be non-voting, and pastor Fr Matt. Discussion followed by others suggesting increase members by 2 more as Ron R nor Jerry W's spots were replaced, many thought we functioned effectively when we were a larger group and benefited from the wider opinion base which seems justified for a larger parish. It was also general consensus understanding that Randy was to stay on as a regular member, filling Jerry's spot, when his Pastoral Council term ended. This would still leave the committee 1 person short of previous years. The need to follow Canon Law was also commented on.
2. St Mary's School tuition; Todd gave brief update that a subcommittee of the Board of Ed is looking into possible options, researching, and contacting diocese for other school practices and comments.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup>

Meeting minutes recorded by Randy Kinney