

Finance Council Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2025 – Parish Office Conference Room

Finance Council Meeting called to order at 4:45 pm with opening prayer led by Fr. Dan.

Present: Mark Maloney, Francie Peterson, Todd Wentworth, Leon Breun, Craig Olson, Angie Dotty, Janet Schiltgen, Ron Kirscht, Tom Klecker, Fr. Dan.

Absent: Fr. Matthew

Agenda: approved

Minutes: Ron had a question about the timing of the tuition letter going out. Letter timing will depend on tuition approval. Stand as written.

Standing Business:

1. Financial Reports – given by Todd – motion to approve by Francie, Angie Dotty – approved.
 - a. February ended better than expected, only \$1,000.00 below budget. YTD is below budget by \$28,000.00 (1.8%). We are above the previous year by 4.1%. The new offering report represents all plate offering minus loose collections and children's offering. The report now matches GL.
 - b. \$4,000.00 in registration fees for kindergarten – only one person has questioned the fee.
 - c. 82% or \$16,400.00 for Fair Share Donations for the school has come from parishioners.
 - d. In total we are \$46,000 favorable on the year-to-date budget.
 - e. Accrued vacation paid out for Bookkeeper and Bookkeeper & staff accountant overlap unplanned, and ICC/SN employees added which caused higher payroll expense for February.
 - f. There is still a huge demand for help in the community. We are over budget in benevolence funds, West Central Community Action is out of money.
 - g. FF – Program – misc. – Adrian Panther for deacon candidate. St. Mary's Foundation reimbursed St. Mary's 50% of tuition to SJU/SOT.
 - h. Physical Plant – electricity timing of autopayment and February being a short month. Rebates were received for lighting retrofit to LED in school.
 - i. Statement of Financial Position – The Mass fund is no longer a separate account. It is still tracked the same way, but instead of paying out intentions in cash it is sent as a check. As of Jan 31, we have just over \$200k in Perpetual Care. \$150k was moved from diocesan savings to cover insurance. Good on short term cash – long term is looking a little rough.
2. Fr. Alexander P Ludwig Benevolent Fund – no outstanding requests. Expecting the market rate to go down, which is not unexpected.
3. Facilities – church windows – reached out to HGA and hope to have quote of what is needed to be done by the end of March beginning of April. Will have the flickering lights

looked at the week before Palm Sunday. Microphone went down – hopefully next week the repair will be completed.

4. Stewardship/Legacy Dinner – One person will need to be on the committee. Mark will ask Roxann if she would be interested. We need to come up with a theme or topic. No date has been chosen yet – usually in October. Francie had an idea of featuring the school. If you have any ideas of people who would be a good fit for the committee, let Todd know. 3 people are on their way to Wichita for the McGread Stewardship Conference.
5. Parish Outreach – not much news.
6. Related Entities
 - a. Fr. Al Ludwig Memorial Fund – 7 students will be receiving funds totaling \$23,000.00. Very good applications this year.
 - b. St. Mary's School Trust fund has \$1,367,556 in the main account. \$32,218 in the Kirscht STEM, \$16,980 in Flaig fund. Trust fund owes St. Mary's about 13-14k for the social worker, YTD.
7. Pastoral Council – Leon –Pastoral council voting was completed; we are looking for ideas on how to be more active. Spoke about All things New and need for Evangelization committee again.

Old/New Business:

1. Offering Counting Process update – Teams are going well. We have four teams of three. Going very well.
2. Annual Plan – coming in April.
3. All Things New – Will be given parameters for what the Diocese wants to see. We will receive more in the next couple of days. Feel confident that we are in better shape than some ACCs.
4. Communication progress for 2024-25 budget/plan – if we start hearing a lot of questions, we can revisit.
5. Bylaws – we received guidance, but it was not helpful for us. We will have to wait until Father Matt gets back to start over.
6. Board of Education and tuition – Biggest concern, parishioners are paying more than non-parishioners. Troy presented his plan at the January meeting. Letter to school families – reminder about financial effort for non-parishioners to help more. Discussion about putting a 1 year pause on the non-parishioner registration fee. Discussion about the potential number of 5th graders not coming back for 6th grade. Mark Maloney suggested making a non-refundable portion of the tuition to help us know how many students are coming and to help deter families from backing out at the last minute.
 - a. Motion made by Craig – Troy has the option to not implement a registration fee of \$250 for non-parishioner students for the 25-26 school year, however, will still be required to get a \$500 increase in revenue per non parishioner student by end of 2025-26 school year. Seconded by Leon, 2 nays, motion carried.
 - b. Mark motioned to set tuition at \$3975.00 with a \$200 non-refundable tuition deposit for all students for 2025-26 school year. Second by Janet- All in favor – motion passed.

Adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Radil