

St. Joseph's Finance Council Meeting

Minutes

October 18, 2023

Members present: Fr. McCabe, Ann Wackel, Doris Robertson, Scott Gubbels, Jim Sizemore, Michael Henkenius, Angie Muhleisen and Jim Essay

Fr. McCabe opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes from the last meeting of 5-22-23 were approved.

Ann detailed financial highlights for the parish school. At year end the transfer from the parish to the school was \$2,496,793 which was \$9,010 over what had been budgeted. Last year's Walk-for-Christ was able to generate \$65,000 instead of the prior \$40,000. Food service for the school was successful and profitable. The government GEERS program transferred \$22,000 for technology purchases made the previous year. The distribution from the school endowment was \$168,776 which was \$8,276 over the budgeted amount. Total salaries and benefits exceeded the budget by \$56,495, mostly due to teacher salaries and benefits. The technology fee was \$175,070 which is being assumed and paid by the parish and equates to approximately \$420/student.

The church financial detail included the fact that the overall tithe was under budget for the year by \$132,671 but the CANA fundraiser was double the budgeted amount which made up the shortfall on the tithe. The actual tithe amount year over year increased by \$142,755 and the current year so far shows a small increase. In addition, there were many facility upgrades made during the year including: new rectory flooring, outdoor lighting, keyless entry in Resurrection Hall, dehumidifier in rectory basement, new tables and recovering chairs in Res. Hall, Church A/C coils and HVAC unit, and paving of the circle drive.

This year's Walk-for-Christ yielded corporate donations of \$51,450 and family contributions of \$39,106.

The diocese has proposed that schools use a benchmark of charging employee 20% of single premium and 40% of single + 1 and family. St. Joseph's is currently at 70% for single and 60% on all others. The finance council suggested to Fr. McCabe and Ann that we should consider increasing our single to 80%. Based on the number of single participants this would equate to an additional annual expense of approximately \$10,000 based on the new premiums for the upcoming year.

Ann then detailed the facility upgrades that the building committee has been reviewing and expects in the months and years ahead: Paint exterior of church, gym sound system, update the call system in the school, install and connect interactive boards in classrooms and concrete repair on the rectory driveway, sidewalks and new patio in place of the deck.

Fr. McCabe reported that Pius X campaign is still upcoming and probably planned for 2025. He mentioned that he has asked the building committee to come up with expected longer-range improvement needs that would possibly be included in the Pius X fund drive. Still more to come on the detail of amounts and timing.

Michael Henkenius suggested that the parish promote IRA giving throughout the end of the year. He agreed to put together some marketing material that could be put in the church bulletin and be posted on the website. He would coordinate this with Carrie. Ann mentioned that she would guess that as many as 100 parishioners give to the parish through their IRA accounts already.

The next meeting date will be determined at a later date and will either be a joint meeting with the building committee or Chairman Ben Huck will attend our next finance meeting to review the projected improvement needs that may be considered along with the Pius campaign so everyone can be aware of them.

Fr. McCabe closed the meeting with a prayer.

Jim Essay