

# Financial Council Minutes

April 9, 2019

**Attendees:** Rita Kester, Mauro Gomez, Janet Niño, Fr. Tetzal, Sue Munson, Jonathan Edmonds

**Absent:** Tom Unger (illness), Michele McKimmy (illness)

**Guests:** None

## Last Month's Action Items

- Video Camera Backup System was installed.
  - It worked, but only for 7 hours during the blackout. It did start back up correctly when the power came back on. This is probably fine, it is rare that end up with long blackouts such as this.
- Investigation of the Kitchen Hood
  - We are getting estimates and gathering bids currently.
  - Fr. Tetzal submitted the grant application and we will send bids once we have them.
  - It may be difficult to fund this so we are anxious to see what the cost will be.

## Internet Access and phone lines

- The Internet in the school building is constantly needing to be restarted. This has been a problem in the past, and is related to the way in which we get the signal there. This causes problems for the security cameras as well as those using the internet in the building.
  - **Action: Fr. Tetzal will investigate to see if it is reasonable and/or low cost to get direct internet to the school building. We do have a phone line that enters directly there already and are already paying monthly bill.**
- We've also got some odd charges on our phone bill. These are international calls to locations such as Morocco and Great Britain. They are not long in duration and seem to be coming from the parish center. It is unclear who is making them or if they are legitimate.
  - We discussed looking at cameras to see if we can tell who is making these calls, but we opted to just see if we can block international calls.
  - **Action: Fr. Tetzal to call and see if we can block all international calls from our Parish phone lines.**

## Monthly Financials

- The March numbers looked excellent. We were over 10K in the black, which is due in great part from tamale sales and 5 Sundays in the month combined with lower than average expenses.
- The council had no major concerns with any specific expenses.
- The janitorial contract changes are helping significantly, and thus far it seems to be working out well.
- We are still awaiting a final auction report. We will ask that it be finalized for the May meeting.
  - **Action: Fr. Tetzal will work with Jenny to see if we can get the report by May. It is OK if there are still some loose ends that need clarification.**
- The Parish Funds Trust is now in our Balance Sheet. There are additional items being worked on from a financial reporting stand-point and Michele is making great progress on them.

## Maintenance

- The water fountain upstairs in the school building has been repaired!
- We had to fix a blocked sewer line. We have also now put up signage in the restrooms reminding folks not to flush items that should be thrown in the trash.

## Budget discussion

- A draft budget was presented to the finance council. This budget attempted to take actual expenses into account and was intended to provide guidance for the next fiscal year.
- It is tight, with very little wiggle-room, however the previous budget was in the red and we did not wish to repeat that.
- The budget does not provide enough money for ongoing maintenance, which is a concern.
  - One idea is that we could use the building funds account to cover maintenance. This would work well during most years as we tend to receive funds on the order of \$25K or more from the auction and from dedicated building funds donations.
  - The downside to this approach is that it does not build up a building fund that could be used for future renovation or projects or major improvements. Perhaps we need both a maintenance and a building fund?
  - This year, the building fund account will be drained to cover the narthex meaning we will not have more resources to work with until the next auction, should a major repair be necessary.
  - **Action: The question of a building fund vs. maintenance expense in the budget needs further discussion from the council.**

## Parish Picnic Ideas

- Mauro brought up the idea that we should have another church picnic this summer. He said the Hispanic community is interested in helping put one together and would like to know if there is support.
  - He mentioned that we could have access to some trampolines and/or other fun activities for families.
  - We would need to think about some of the logistics, such as an outdoor mass, extra insurance needs, food, cost etc...
- **Action: Continue conversations about possibly supporting a church picnic this summer.**

## Online Giving token

- There was a sample shown of a slip of paper that could be used to drop into the offertory for those who give only online. The idea is that they would have something to put in to show support for the church.
- There are currently only about 20-25 that regularly give online we opted to hold off on this type of item for now.

## Stations of the Cross

- The two councils are responsible for leading Stations of the Cross on Friday. All councilmembers present agreed to be available if they could to assist. Jonathan, Janet, Sue, and Rita will all be available to assist with reading, cross & candles, setup, and cleanup.