

Sacred Heart –Grosse Ile
Finance Committee meeting Minutes
December 16, 2020

Attendance

Fr. Marc Gawronski	Sue Beidlingmaier
Mark Gilroy	Dennis O'Brien
Gregg Zuccker	Gary Latendresse
Ken Juip	

Meeting Minutes

- Ken called the Zoom meeting to order.
- Fr. Marc was not in attendance at the very beginning but joined slightly later and he was briefed on what was discussed prior to his arrival before the meeting continued
- The committee first discussed the three bids relative to replacing the furnaces and AC units in the Gathering Space. Sue commented that she was pleased with the work done by Superior Comfort at the church and parish center. Ken added that the Superior bid was the most complete and did provide warranty information. Gary and Gregg added that they were pleased with the service and responsiveness of Superior. Dennis had questions about the filter being proposed and suggested that the quote should be changed to require a MERV 13 level filter. Clarifications on the location of the system controls ensued. The bid indicated the controls would be in the mechanical room with temperature sensors located where individual thermostats are currently located. The committee wants to make sure we have the ability to separately control the Gathering Space vs the Music Room. Gary agreed to contact Superior to clarify and make sure we have that capability.
- The group then briefly discussed contacting the other bidders about further clarifications of their bids and to pursue their willingness to reduce their bid. This suggestion was not endorsed as all seemed most interested in Superior's quote.
- The meeting then took up the matter of the recently announced Family of Parishes (FOP). Fr. Marc reiterated that Sacred Heart was officially included in a group of six downriver parishes as previously announced by Fr. Marc. What was new is that our FOP is in the first wave of the AOD's two wave program. This means, efforts to study and implement our FOP will begin in early 2021 when a moderator and an AOD consultant will be assigned to help and oversee the process. Ken asked about the SH Finance Committee's role and whether we were charged with preparing a Five-Year Financial Plan for the AOD's and FOP's consideration. Fr. Marc said that was not a requirement at this point. Once the six-month study phase begins and the AOD resource arrives in January, assignments and participation levels will be better understood.
- Sue then discussed her efforts to re-calculate this year's budget for Sacred Heart in view of the substantial impact the pandemic was causing to certain accounts along with the changes inherent in sharing the cost of the pastor, music director and maintenance manger with St. Cyprians. The committee decided not to adjust the budget as the projected outcome is not expected to be off the budget by a significant amount in total.
- The discussion then turned to the matter of Sacred Heart's surplus property south of the church and the potential to re-purpose or sell the old convent. Fr. Marc endorsed the idea of selling or developing the surplus property to create an endowment that would be of benefit to Sacred Heart and its FOP. Fr. Marc added that at this point there is no one at the AOD assigned to manage this process as the former person retired and staff positions are being left open presumably for cost savings and pandemic related reasons.

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- Fr. Marc then stated that Sacred Heart is not permitted to sell this property on its own because it is owned by the AOD. That said, if the AOD and Sacred Heart agree to sell the property the proceeds would come to Sacred Heart.
- Mark and others then suggested that while the AOD grapples with other matters that Sacred Heart undertake identifying and determining potential developers with knowledge of Grosse Ile to assess interest and feasibility. Gary agreed to develop a prospectus for this effort and to present it to the committee. If it is approved, the next step would be to meet and share the document with:
 - B & B
 - Krause Builders
 - Mike Perry
 - Baird & Lowler
 - Ron Palmer (developer of the Hawthorn Complex)
- Gary then brought up the status of the current CSA program and expressed his disappointment that at this point, only 232 families out of over 700 parish families had made a pledge. Sue mentioned sending a letter to those who gave in the prior year CSA but have not yet pledged this year. Sue mentioned offsetting those who have not yet pledged this year were 35 new first time pledge families. Fr. Marc reminded all that this has been a difficult and complicated year and that the problem is widespread. No new actions were agreed to.
- There being no further business, Fr. Marc ended the meeting with a prayer.

Gary P. Latendresse
Secretary