

St. Wilfrid Parish Council/Finance Committee Meeting December 1, 2022

Meeting held in downstairs classroom and started at 8:03 PM.

Attendance: Fr. Kevin, John Ames, Mike Rankin, Jennifer Hansen, Rebecca Zens, Janet Voorhees, Sherryl Rankin, Gay Lynne Ames.

Suspended reading of minutes, motioned and passed by unanimous consent. (Minutes are available for reading.)

Present first quarter of financial records.

Showed that there was \$22,000 decrease due to transfer of money to Parish Deposit & Loan. Some monies were due to money taken for COVID time and money raised for the renovation of the basement.

Dedicated accounts gone over.

Income vs expense – approximately \$9,000 brought in. Bulletins are reflecting bare bones amount which seemed to help the income.

Report accepted by Parish Council/Finance Committee by unanimous consent.

OLD BUSINESS:

Handicapped entrance handle has been fixed. Northwest side door at the handicapped entrance is making a whistling noise. Discussion about using that door. Suggestion to take out the northwest door maybe in the spring.

Four vents on the sacristy side have been replaced.

East entrance overhang door entrance has been repaired and sealed.

Roof status on the insurance settlement – gave us \$1,200. The replacement of the same color can be found at the lumberyard if we want to patch in the shingles.

Tuckpointing – Looking at bids from MCR and Heinemann. With flashing issues along with other concerns, it was suggested that the parish would like to see what the cost would be (broken down in categories vs. a general estimate for the entire roof project.) Suggestion to have MCR modify their quote to break down the costs (so they can compare the two estimates side by side). Of course, additional bid to repair the flashing and painting would be required. An ad hoc committee of three (members being John Ames, Drew Hansen and Mike Rankin) agreed to flesh out the details with the companies who issued estimates for the repair in order to better define issue that were not clearly stated in the estimate. The establishment of this committee was accepted unanimous consent.

Suggestion to submit a letter to the diocese for permission to get tuck pointing based on the two tuck pointing bids. Fr. Kevin will write a letter to the diocese.

Discussion on the storage room (which hold the extra tables and chairs).

Volunteers for cleaners. Fr. Kevin said that he would give it three months to see where it is at. There is no coordination of who is doing what task. Suggested to have a list. Go another three months and then assessed. Fr. Kevin will approach Liz Swenson and the altar society could coordinate the list for cleaning.

Hiring a part-time secretary suggested by Fr. Kevin. With the Pastoral Plan, may want to think about it before the Pastoral Plan is in effect.

Acquiring an AED. We do have grant money, if we want to pursue. But may have to put on the back burner.

Status on the Eucharistic Revival. Fr. Kevin explained what the Eucharistic Revival is. Hansens and Ames attended the "Madison Road Show."

We are having Mass in the Adoration Chapel. Some heating issues when the door is closed.

Grant is in process from Homeland Security. We were able to apply for the grant for security for the building. We have up to \$100,000. St. Wilfrid is named as the Safety Zone for Woonsocket School. We are looking for mag locks for the building.

Parish Directory using Life Touch. Council was in agreement of getting a directory. This could be used as an evangelical tool for our parish.

Telephone system that is internet driven. The diocese pays for the overall service. It will go through the diocese and venture.com. We could estimate needing three telephones at an approximate cost of \$300 each.

Microwave in the kitchen on the north side is not working. The microwave still runs while the door is open. The microwave doesn't work and will be replaced by a similar model. Faucet in kitchen is not turning (all gummed up) and needs to be replaced. A parishioner will look into getting a replacement.

Sherryl said that she found mouse droppings in her classroom.

A coffee pot was thrown out due to a short and someone replaced the pot.

Cemetery – building a columbarium at the cemetery to match the Veeland mausoleum (giving balance to the cemetery) was suggest by Fr Kevin suggestion in order to bring a more balanced aesthetic look at the back of the cemetery. Marc Olson estimated the cost of \$30,000 for the columbarium. The selling of niches (approximately 60 niches) would pay for not only the project itself by may also be a good funding source for additional revenue for the cemetery.

Set Ablaze Pastoral plan of Bishop DeGrood was discussed.

Parishioners stated that it is dark in the front of the church due to the light going out on the light pole. Fr Kevin is going to talk to Jason Howard about getting the light fixed.

Christmas wreath will be put on the front of the church in the near future in preparing of the Advent/Christmas Season (which will also provide more light for the front steps of the church).

Fr. Kevin reported that St. Joseph's rectory will be torn down on Monday, December 5th.

It was brought up "How do we become more inviting." Suggested that we could bring welcome baskets (A Welcome Wagon) to the newcomers in town. Discussion on where we are at... as Catholics. Suggestion by parishioner from the "Road Show" in Madison. Suggestion by parishioners who were present at the "Road Show" in Madison to offer a quiet time, adoration, Mass, prayer time, silence for St. Wilfrid parish. We need to cultivate these things for the sake of our young people. Suggestion of bringing in young people to help with CCD classes. Fr. Kevin stated that Confirmation students can help teach the CCD teachers, (this was done in Hoven). His experience demonstrated that the kids would be involved in the important parish life by their presence in the classroom post Confirmation. The little prayer groups (i.e. Bible study, Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, etc.) also suggested.

Annual Report put on a brochure form to put in the bulletin for the parishioners.

The rectory basement still hasn't been repaired/remodeled from the insurance money received in 2017.

One parish family stated that they may not have received their bi-monthly contribution envelopes. Fr Kevin stated, "If you are not getting envelopes, we can get replacements. There are also the Welcoming envelopes in the vestibule simple put your envelope number on those." It was further noted that if parishioners not receiving their mailings to please contact the office in order to correct the situation. This suggestion will be put in the bulletin as a solution to this issue if it is occurring regularly. Fr Kevin pointed out, especially in the era of the 21st century that having the contribution envelopes mailed assure that we do have the most current mailing addresses of our parishioners. With our society being so mobile and changing bi-monthly envelopes make it easier on the office to be up to date (as OSV does send any address corrections back to us if circumstances change and we are not notified of the move, etc. The difficulty with having a yearly box envelop system has been a waste of envelopes due to the way they have to be ordered in blocks as well as parishioners not picking up their envelop3es in the back of the church, parishioners giving us the wrong address and us requiring to directly mail the boxes at approximately \$5.00 a package, etc. Fr Kevin admitted that no system is perfect but as Gay Lynne can verify the bi-monthly mailing makes it so much more convenient and reasonable to keep track of our members (hopefully, for those not attending Mass will help them be connected with St. Wilfrid Parish and, receiving potential support for the parish otherwise would be missed.)

Ended meeting with prayer.

Next meeting planned for late February, early March (TBA).

Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm. (Continued fruitful discussion among parishioners with coffee and snacks.)

Respectfully submitted,

Gay Lynne Ames
Executive Secretary of the Parishes

