

St. John the Baptist Finance Commission  
Minutes – meeting of March 26, 2014

Members present: Gary H., Chris L., Lesia Z., George W., Scott J., Gene R., Bob F., Ken H.

From the staff: Stacey

Not Present: Debbie C. From the staff: Alan

1. Opening Prayer –Gary
2. PLC Report – From Chris
  - a. Ken signed up for the “Stewardship – A Disciple’s Response” meeting. All other members have attended.
3. Financial Update
  - a. February Financials –
    1. Donations were less than budget once again in February. Donations were also down compared to last year.
    2. J-care income is up again for the month.
    3. Expenses are better than budget, but not enough to offset declining income.
    4. If the above trend continues we will end the year worse than budget and be “in the red”. Note that there are reserves to cover this expected deficit.
    5. Positive comments were made regarding the bulletin article by the Trustees about the financial giving status. Also the upcoming Easter mailing will address this.
4. Subcommittee Reports
  - a. Cemetery Subcommittee (Gene) – There are some obstacles with the Archdiocese that need to be addressed regarding having a columbarium in the church. There does not seem to be an issue with having a columbarium at the cemetery.
  - b. Investment Subcommittee (George and Scott) – Still looking at funds and investment options.
  - c. Policy Subcommittee (Chris) – Final policies are being worked on and will hopefully be presented at our April 23rd meeting. A decision on use of the recent \$5,000 bequest was deferred to the next meeting.
5. 2014-15 Budget –
  - a. Total Giving Budget – worksheet presented -- Proposed budget based on average of three projections shown.
  - b. Michelle and Alan will be meeting with Ministry/Department heads next week to discuss budgets. Proposed budget expected to be presented to the Finance Commission at its April meeting.
  - c. First run of budgets shows Parish, School and Preschool at a net loss.
  - d. Finance Commission Budget Subcommittee – Deb, Chris, Gary and Alan -- being set up to help look at reasons for decreased giving and options to balance budget.
  - e. Comments/questions about giving –
    1. Are there fewer donations, less money given or combination of both?

2. Is membership and/or mass attendance down?
  3. Investment changes could possibly help with the decreased giving trend.
6. Mission Statement – handout presented –  
The following was approved by the Finance Commission and will be presented to the PLC:  
“The mission of the Parish Finance Commission is to serve as a consultative body advising the Pastor in the prudent planning and administration of all parish financial matters and in the setting of policies and procedures intended to provide effective management of parish assets.”
7. Announcements & Other Business
- a. OSMG 2014 – commitment weekend is this weekend – March 29/30 – final year of 3 year capital campaign. Planning is starting for next year’s new Capital Campaign.
  - b. Ministry Fair Results – Finance Commission table had little interest; some prior members visited. Comments were made about poor attendance and the organization of the tables.
  - c. Next Meeting – April 23<sup>rd</sup> starting with Mass at 5:30.
8. Closing Prayer – Lesia at 7:30.