

St. John the Baptist Finance Commission
Minutes
October 15, 2014

Present: Gary Horn, Scott Johnson, Gene Rezac, Ken Houston, Deb Case, Lesia Zownirowycz, Chris Lieser

Absent: George Weinberger, Bob French

Staff: Stacey Meyer, Alan Foley

1. Opening Prayer

2. PLC Report – Chris reported on the September meeting. The problem of leaking church windows is one that could have a direct impact on finances, and on the work of the Finance Commission, depending on what the Administrative Services Commission determines.

3. Financial Update – Stacey and Michelle did an amazing job of getting September financials done in a very short period of time. Through September we are doing OK in Sunday Giving relative to budget. We are also slightly ahead of last year. School tuition will bring the income down as we proceed through the year, because of lower enrollment than budgeted. We are doing OK in expenses.

Alan shared with the Commission the quarterly report that was completed by Michelle just in time for the meeting. The Commission feels that it should appear in the bulletin with narrative, but we recommend holding off on making a financial (oral) presentation after Masses for this initial quarter activity.

4. Analysis of Sunday Giving – Stacey and Michelle had prepared a spreadsheet showing Sunday Giving records for all parishioners over the last 3 years. Gary analyzed the information (with parishioner names deleted) to see if we could identify the reasons for the decline last year. The main issue is a decline in givers, from 1,798 in 2012, to 1,711 in 2013, to 1,590 in 2014. Over that time, average giving actually increased slightly, but not enough to overcome the decline in givers.

Like all parishes, St. John's loses parishioners through death, moving, etc. The numbers show that we are not attracting new giving parishioners in sufficient numbers to replace those who are leaving.

5. Bequests – The Commission discussed and voted to recommend the following to Father Skluzacek:

“The Finance Commission recommends that the parish spend up to \$15,000 from pending estate gift funds, to complete the original plan for the School Courtyard, including the acquisition of statues and benches and whatever landscaping is needed. The remainder of the amounts currently set aside from estate gifts would be used to pay down debt, in accordance with St. John's Finance Commission policy. We expect that amount to be approximately \$160,000.”

6. Fall Fest – Alan presented information on the revenue from this year's FallFest. Expense data will follow in November. Thanks to the FC members who sold wrist bands for G. B. Leighton on Saturday night. (Rock on, man!)

7. 2015-16 Budget Process – Lesia reported on the first meeting of the school budget subcommittee and the process that will result in a recommendation by the FC to Father Skluzacek at the December FC meeting. The Committee consists of Principal Laird, Alan, Michelle, Debbie and Lesia, plus from the School Commission Steve Blum and Dea Johnson. The Commission took note of the beginning School/Parish subsidy calculation. There was consensus that the subsidy amount that should be used in the development of the budget is \$287,000, or 16% of last year’s lower Sunday Giving.

8. Subcommittee Reports

Cemetery – Gene Rezac reported on his research into columbaria. There is consensus at the FC based on Gene’s findings, that St. John’s has no financial barriers to constructing a Columbarium at St. John’s Cemetery. Alan will suggest to Father that an ad hoc committee be formed to include Gene from the FC, and members of the Cemetery Committee, the Arts and Environment Committee, and the Administrative Serviced Commission.

9. Announcements & Other Business

- a. OSMG – nothing to report at this time
- b. Leadership Breakfast – Saturday, October 11 – A good outcome.
- c. Next Meeting – November 19

10. Closed with Prayer (by Deb) at 7:35.