

12/18/2014

Finance Council December Meeting Minutes

in Attendance: Paul Kosmoski
Tom Kurkowski
Paula Lynch
Barry Fife
Eric Kelly
Jeremy Borchardt
Mary Marquardt



Next Meeting: 01/29/2015

Pastoral Planning Webinar: 03/10/2015 (Noon-1PM or 6:30PM-7:30PM)

The Meeting began with a Hail Mary prayer.

October and November Minutes were approved: Barry Motioned, Eric Seconded.

Welcomed new Finance Council Member Erik Kelly

Review of Reports and Financial Statements:

- *Still Awaiting Bishop's Appeal Rebate (approx \$3800).
- *January 21, 2015 a Bishop's Appeal Kickoff takes place at St. Bernard's.
- *At that time we are given our 2015 Goal.
- *Goals are assessed based on a rigorous formula.
- *If goal isn't reached, the Parish OWE'S the difference.
- *If goal is reached, the Parish receives 50% of the excess.

- *Per Mary, 4 new participants enrolled into Faith Direct.
- *ASK LETTER was sent near the end of November. Too early to know affect.
- *February 2015, should give us a good understanding of Ask Letter's success.

Discussion of Christmas Eve/Christmas collections:

- *At this time, all donations (unless it's a check made directly to SEAS) go to 5 outreach programs.
- *Typically around \$15,000 is received from those collections.
- *Do parishioners realize this?
- *Can we develop special envelopes (for next year) that specifically go to outreach?
- *Parish needs all possible donations.
- *Can we review Parish's total outgoing Charity dollars and examine this current policy?

LED lighting Discussion:

- *How do Parishioners view these upgrades?
- *Do they know it's from a private donor?
- *Perhaps members see all these new changes and think finances are ok.
- *How do we best communicate the church's urgent need for donations while these upgrades are being realized?
- *Barry suggested, "if all looks good in the parish, donations could be going elsewhere." Possible parishioner thought: "If someone is willing to donate to lighting, those people will surely kick in to offset any budget shortfalls, so there's no need for my donation."
- *What's the best way to keep communication open with our parishioners?

Reports and Financial Statements were placed on file.

Correspondence, Leadership Evening:

Paul Kosmoski reviewed a discussion on SCRIP from the Executive Meeting. Barry Fife to call SCRIP contact to get additional information.

Briefly discussed and gave opinions on the Leadership Evening.

NON-Budgeted Items Policy Discussion:

- *A request came in from Hospitality for \$2300 for the next 6 months.
- *Yearly budget currently stands at \$1000.
- *Funds would be for upgraded snacks after mass.
- *Discussed Handouts on Capital Purchases Policy and Procedure.
- *It was determined that the focus needs to be placed on How items are served and not necessarily What items are served in order to successfully make parishioners feel Welcomed.

Sales tax Exemptions for Non Profits:

- *Mary discussed an error made when planning the Winter Event.
- *Per guidelines, if \$500 or more is paid for entertainment, it makes an event taxable.
- *A contract was signed with musicians for \$500.
- *Approximately \$15000 was made last year.
- *Now 5.5% of all revenue from the event will need to be paid; not originally budgeted.

Rental Policy:

- *Minimal funds are made from the rental of our Tables and Chairs.
- *Tables and Chairs will now be available on a donation basis.
- *A security refundable Deposit will still be required.
- *Barry Fife made the motion, Paula Lynch Seconded.

Leadership Commission:

- *Per Jeremy, October Meeting began discussions of a Welcoming Area.
- *Meeting ended too quickly to discuss funds needed for project.
- *Will continue to work with other Committee leadership toward achieving SEAS vision.

Buildings and Grounds:

- *Kevin Regalia not present.
- *Per Mary, ATM account has \$23k available to address carpet in gathering space and relocating Choir area.

Meeting concluded with the following thoughts:

- *Continue to promote leadership cohesiveness.
- *Fund Raising is everyone's job, not just Finance Council.
- *Investing will be put on hold as funds aren't substantial enough to discuss options.