

# Finance Council

## Meeting Minutes – August 24, 2023

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St. John  
THE Baptist  
CATHOLIC PARISH

Location:	Conference Room
Meeting Date	August 24, 2023 called to order by Paul Patterson at 6:34 pm
Members present	Fr. Jim Lucas, Gary Lockstein, Paul Patterson, Chad Bianchi, John Style, Jeff Taylor, Terry Patrick
Absent	Craig Gezella, Sarah Wulf
Opening Prayer	Paul Patterson

Approve Minutes: Minutes from May 25, 2023 meeting - motion to approve by Gary Lockstein seconded by Jeff Taylor. All in favor, motion carried.

### Reports

- **Giving Ministry Initiative Updates:**
  - **SCRIP** – July 2023 revenue up from last year. A SCRIP challenge has been developed for the parish that went into the bulletin. Updates on the challenge (how much was purchased/how much the parish made) will be shared each week.
  - **Endowment/Memorial** – Planning a possible seminar in late October 2023. Like past years, this will be in conjunction with both the Catholic Foundation and a local will/estate planning attorney.
  - **Stewardship Information and Education** – Jeff is forming the team, needs to establish a team.
  - **Cost Optimization** – Terry is looking to start this process over, will be communicating in the future with Sarah on this subject. TDS has begun to lay wiring, should start seeing that savings in a month or so. Exploring changing to a different IT provider which may save us more money.
  - **Fundraising** – ‘Raise the Roof’ calendar raffle going well, most awards donated back to parish by the winners. Those funds are going right to Campus Maintenance. BlessFest kickoff the weekend of 8/26-27. Proceeds from Green Envelopes good for the roof, behind for maintenance. We will want to discuss another Green Envelope Awareness and present an updated campus priority list. Exploring an option for parishioners to sign up for automatic withdrawal for campus maintenance.
- **Financials** – (July 2023 financials) – July 2023 collections below last year and below budget. There is a \$10,000 credit from GRACE for energy costs that was unexpected. Chad Bianchi made a motion to approve the July 2023 financials, seconded by John Style. The motion carried.
- **Business Manager’s Report** – We received \$61,000 from the Employee Retention Credit. Lisa Piechota was a huge help with this process. Melissa Wagnetz has been hired in the Faith Formation Grades 1-5 and Church Time position.
- **Parish Mission** – a plan reassessment meeting scheduled for 9/14/2023. Parish staff, council leader, council members, and high level parish leadership is invited to attend.
- **Diocesan Audit Results** – positive results, but there were some recommendations. No more wine pulls, the promotion of alcohol is prohibited. Need to utilize more volunteers to sell SCRIP, need 15% or less paid staff selling SCRIP. Parish financial reports should include balance sheets. Need good simplified analysis of income vs expenses that is easy for parishioners to understand.
- **Growing Forward (Financial Reality)** – Jeff is forming a group. They are going to understand and be able to articulate the One-by-One campaign benefits. Understand what we can do, what we have, and what we have coming in over the next 6 and 12 months. This is to have documents available to parishioners by the parish annual meeting on 11/4/2023. Jeff will give another update on this at the next Finance Council meeting.
- **New Member Discussion** – Fr. Jim is looking for a few new member recommendations. Father is preferring someone with CPA experience, maybe even non-profit CPA experience. Father would also prefer female recommendations.
- **Coffee/Donuts** hosted by Finance and Pastoral Councils – May 19, 2024.
- **Closing Prayer** – Jeff Taylor

Gary Lockstein made a motion to end the meeting, seconded by Jeff Taylor. The meeting was adjourned by Paul Patterson at 8:25 PM.

Next meeting: Thursday September 28, 2023, 6:30-8:00 in the School Commons.

Respectfully submitted by John Style