

# Finance Council

## Meeting Minutes – May 26, 2022

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**St. John**  
**THE Baptist**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

Location:	Commons
Meeting Date	May 26, 2022 called to order by Paul Patterson at 6:30pm
Members present	Jeff Taylor, Karen Monfre, Fr. Jim Lucas, Craig Gezella, Paul Patterson, Gary Lockstein, Kelly Williams
Guest Attendee	Terry Patrick
Absent	Michelle Dahlke, Chad Bianchi, John Style
Staff Present	Sarah Wulf
Opening Prayer	Paul Patterson

Approve Minutes: Minutes from April 28 meeting - motion to approve by Craig Gezella seconded by Gary Lockstein. All in favor.

### Reports

- **Bank Reconciliation – Craig Gezella – No concerns on the April bank statements.**
- **GRACE – Kelly Williams – There was a donation made to Grace that will subsidize secondary education, pay a bonus to teachers each year. This is the same family that anonymously donated a bonus to teachers this year. Enrollment is 2267 students, slightly lower than last year but some is intentional as some schools were over capacity last year. The budget is to be 50 more students than last year. Because the PPP loan was forgiven, the money sitting in that account will be invested to use for facilities improvement to ease the burden on parishes. They will net out a zero budget this fiscal year June 2022.**
- **Buildings & Grounds – Craig Gezella – There was an update on the hours purchased at the auction for the Murphy family. A patio was put in at the rectory by Gary Patenaude. They are still planning to do a privacy fence. Over 200 Tamareck and Red Cedar trees have been planted in the wetlands. Still need to relocate the rosary stations. The spring cleanup went well. There remains a lack of volunteers. Father put something in the bulletin this week on the grounds.**
- **Cemetery Committee – Gary Lewins – Gary presented a packet of information including a preliminary layout. The cemetery is almost full, there are very few spaces available. The committee wants to put in a columbarium. By not offering cremation niches we are missing a large market. The proposed plan is to put in one 100-niche columbarium and a cremains garden for a total cost of \$60,000. The proposed layout allows for 4 total columbariums. He walked through the proposed projection of revenues and expenses. They are \$34,000 short in funding the \$60,000 project. The Cemetery Committee is requesting a loan from the parish to be paid off over the next three years. Or, in the alternative, other ideas to bridge this gap. Craig inquired if there are unoccupied plots that people may not want that could be resold. Gary noted the committee has discussed that and could consider. Sarah inquired how long it would take to do phase 1 and whether they could pre-sell during construction. It will take 90 days and that is incorporated in the projection. Jeff requested whether named bricks that could be sold vs concrete. Gary noted they are trying to keep it manageable and bricks adds a lot more work. Also, it would need to be stone not brick. Jeff inquired whether more than two cremains per burial plot could be considered and Gary believes the standards could be changed. Father suggested looking at unoccupied plots first to see if those could be bought back and resold. There is a deficit this year and if the project is started it will result in the cemetery being sustainable vs operating at a deficit. Sarah suggested asking the diocese if the loan could be drawn from the perpetual care fund. Paul inquired whether we should take out a bank loan. It was also noted that Drew and Dave Christiansen have done a lot of concrete work for the parish. We should reach out to them for a quote. The conclusion was that more work was needed to follow up on these ideas before concluding the matter. The issue is tabled until July. Gary agreed to go to the diocese first to see if it could be loaned from the perpetual care fund and to follow up on the suggestions raised.**
- **Pastoral Council – Gary Lockstein – Approx 70 students received their First Communion and 38 confirmands confirmed by Bishop Ricken. Also discussed the OnebyOne and Bishops Appeal. At Pentecost 3 new pastoral council members will be chosen.**
- **Safety Committee – Sarah Wulf – They have been meeting and formulating plans. They will probably begin making changes in June. There are 6-7 people on the committee including some police officers. The objective is to allow the participants to still participate in mass so they don't have to come to a separate service. We need to invite others and train them. The committee developed an invitation to all ushers to be part of the safety committee. Paul also suggested the Knights of Columbus also be invited. The training will include verbal Judo, de-escalation and situational management training. The safety committee members will be the point people and responsible, as an example, for knowing where medical help is located in the parish and to monitor if someone wants to come in. Safety shirts will be purchased so they stand out. They are bidding out cameras and door access at this time.**

Security for the school is separate, this would just be for church.

- **Scrip Update – Sarah Wulf no report**
- **Financials – (April financials) – Terry requested whether the revenues increased due to the active member movement. It is too early to tell, however, of the approximately 100 commitments returned, 20% have increased their annual giving. The one on one meeting with school families was also beneficial. Also 6-7 new members in the guardian angels .**
- **Business Manager’s Report – There is a parishioner donating money for people with hearing aids to create an amplification ring. To start and see if it’s effective, they are doing the back six pews on the center right at a cost of \$3,000. If successful, it would be expanded to both sides. There has been a lot of leaking from the roof. They had someone look at it and there are several sections that need replacement at a cost of approximately \$82,000 each. One section needs replacement immediately. The membrane is pulling away. To replace the entire roof is \$429,000.**

**Budget discussion – There was a discussion on unrestricted campus maintenance. There was a contribution of \$100,000 and Lisa is on vacation right now, however, we believe it is in deferred revenue and \$60,000 will be recognized next year with an offsetting maintenance expense. Karen noted the Parish Support revenue is up 3.5% over the prior year budget but 14% above the current run rate of actual collections. Father noted we need to continue working to get collections up. They are presenting a balanced budget with both revenue increase and cost cutting. There are four less people in next year’s budget. Jeff requested Lisa or Sarah send out an updated budget once the questions raised from the meeting are answered.**

- **Joint Meeting Agenda – The budget will be presented. Kelly suggested name tags for Finance Council.**
- **Closing Prayer – Craig Gezella**

**A motion was made at 8:10 PM to adjourn the meeting by Jeff Taylor, seconded by Gary Lockstein. All in favor.**

**Future meeting: Joint meeting June 16, 6:30-8:00.**

**Respectfully submitted by Karen Monfre standing in for Michelle Dahlke**