

# Finance Council

## Meeting Minutes – April 28, 2022

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

Location:	Commons
Meeting Date	April 28, 2022, called to order by Paul Patterson at 6:30pm
Members present	Jeff Taylor, Fr. Jim Lucas, Michelle Dahlke, Karen Monfre Craig Gezella, Paul Patterson, Gary Lockstein, Kelly Williams
Guest Attendee	Dale Klimek, Terry Patrick
Absent	John Style, Chad Bianchi
Staff Present	Sarah Wulf, Lisa Piechota
Opening Prayer	Craig Gezella

Approve Minutes: Minutes from March meeting - motion to approve by Kelly Williams seconded by Jeff Taylor. All in favor.

### Reports

- Bank Reconciliation – Craig Gezella – Complete with no issues.
- GRACE – Kelly Williams – Budget was approved and will be brought to the Board of Directors for approval. A class is being added to the Chesterton School for the Freshman. Total enrollment 2,335 students enrolled in the GRACE system. Many classrooms are at maximum capacity. At St. Johns, there are 2 classes for each grade except 1. St. John's has a new principal – Dana Vance. Teacher appreciation week is next week. GRACE is completing a compensation study for GRACE positions. GRACE is experiencing a positive variance to budget
- Buildings & Grounds – Craig Gezella – Plans continue for the wetland revitalization and the landscaping plan. The goal is a low maintenance plan. The Village of Howard is evaluating the wetlands for a trail. These conversations will continue as there are no solid plans as of now. Good progress is being made for both initiatives. One of the parish members is donating the landscaping plan. May 15 is coffee and rolls. April 30 – truckload to Mississippi is occurring. **There is a need for volunteers to pull weeds cemetery.**
- Cemetery Committee – Sarah Wulf – This team continues to evaluate the columbarium. The team is evaluating the repayment plan for the sidewalks and the impact to the funds needed to build the columbarium. Fund-raising or pre-sales are likely necessary to fund this project. The amount of repayment for the sidewalks is expected to be equal each year and this is what will be in the budget. Burial rates will increase in June 2022 from \$900 (burial) and \$450 (cremation) and will increase to \$1,000 and \$500 respectively. The cost of purchasing a plot will be \$850 to \$975. An option to begin funding the columbarium would be a loan from the campus maintenance fund to the cemetery. This will be evaluated.
- Pastoral Council – Gary Lockstein – Rob Sobiek and Lisa Christiansen presented on a summer event for families and children. Fr. Jim and Sarah updated the active membership movement. A child friendly holy hour is being evaluated and discussed.
- Safety Committee – Sarah Wulf – This ministry is starting back up and the Committee will reestablish the goals. This is a committee of the Finance Council. A liaison between the Finance Council and Safety Committee is needed. This Committee is about addressing natural disasters, physical health concerns, mental health situations and active shooter. This group will be trained to de-escalate situations that could arise on premise. Cameras and other campus changes are being evaluated. Next meeting is May 16. This Committee will be seeking volunteers once the objectives are known. Information regarding the goals of this committee is being obtained from the Diocese and St. Johns will be in alignment with this guidance.
- SCRIP – Sarah Wulf/Michelle Dahlke – A plan for SCRIP communication will be complete in the Fall at the same time as the school communications. The Finance Council needs some education regarding the benefits of SCRIP for both the parishioner and the parish. The Giving Ministry is evaluating if SCRIP should be a part of this team.
- Financials – Karen Monfre – Cash management should be evaluated due to interest rate increase to increase interest income for the parish. A deficit between revenue, expenses and capital outlay exists as of March 31.
- Budget– Sarah Wulf – A preliminary budget was provided to the Finance Council. Discussions arose regarding some of the assumptions in the budget. This will be further discussed in May.
- Topic of the Month- Bishops Appeal - \$141,149 is the goal for 2022 which is up 4.6%. Currently, \$111,275 has been contributed with 475 donations. \$29,874 is remaining to contribute.

- **Financial Stewardship** – There will be a **Covenant Weekend May 21-22<sup>nd</sup>** focused on the building blocks of **Prayer, Service and Giving**. There will be witness talks for three weeks preceding the **Covenant Weekend**. **Covenant weekend** will include materials with a request to return some of these materials by the end of June.
- **Closing Prayer** – Kelly Williams

A motion was made at 8:35 PM to adjourn the meeting by Gary Lockstein, seconded by Fr. Jim. All in favor.

**Future meeting:** Next meeting is May 26, 2022 in the School Commons. The joint meeting is tentatively scheduled in June 16, 2022. Respectfully submitted by Michelle Dahlke.