

Finance Council Minutes 09/17/09

Committee Members in Attendance – Fr. Jeff Fleming, Kevin Fredenberg, Scott Johnson, Al Pontrelli, Sara Streeter, Kim Vuckovich, Linda Zarko, Sue Monroe and John Tabaracci

The meeting was opened with a prayer offered by Sue.

Linda provided current Profit and Loss Reports and a Capital Campaign Report. Linda explained that collections were down; however we received the expected Diocesan grant which allowed bills to be paid current. A request was made for Linda to e-mail the financial reports to the Council, prior to the meetings. It was agreed that she would send financial reports on the Monday preceding each Council meeting, to give the members an opportunity to review them in advance. Contributions to the Capital Campaign continue at a good pace. Reminders were sent to those who pledges were payable other than monthly. We are scheduled to make a *From Age to Age* payment (approx. \$22,000) in early November. Since October 2008 we've paid approximately \$95,000 toward our building debt. Kevin commented that we were making good progress on these commitments.

Fr. Jeff then mentioned DOP, which is now called Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA). The timing has changed from the spring to the fall. In early October, Glenda Seipp from the Diocese will be speaking at Masses about the ACA.

Fr. Jeff next discussed the Living Stones Program, and its potential to affect the staffing of Parishes, and whether Parishes will remain. The initial step was a survey (55 pages) which Fr. Jeff and staff have been working on. Coming up in late October and early November are two listening sessions. Cathy Schwenk has agreed to facilitate these two sessions. Members of Finance Council (among others) will be asked to be in charge of tables at these sessions. All Parishes in the Diocese will hold similar sessions. Following the listening sessions, the Parishes in our Deanery will meet to compile the information gathered from each Parish's listening sessions and plan for the future. Results of this study should be known by Easter.

Coffee Hour was the next topic of discussion. It was discussed that each Council and group in the Parish would be hosting a coffee hour, so that Parish members could identify and get to know of these groups, their roles and members. Additionally a charge card was acquired so that those who picked up the donuts could charge the same, and the Parish would be billed by Albertsons. Kevin gave the card to John, to deliver to Albertsons next Sunday when he and Wilma picked up donuts.

The discussion then turned to *Living Your Strengths*. Fr. Jeff explained that this is a different approach to stewardship, focusing on matching strengths and gifts of Parishioners to the ministries needed in the Parish. The book *Living Your Strengths* which were distributed to the various committee members and other serving the Parish were donated by a Parishioner. The group expressed its thanks for the gift.

In other business, discussion was had about holding a lunch honoring Dave Peterson. The group decided that taking Dave out to lunch would be best. Fr. Jeff will arrange a day and time for the lunch with Dave, and let the committee know.

The final item of business was discussion of the Finance Council's Bylaws. It was understood that the group had finalized these last year, and that they were to be sent to the Diocese for review and approval. Fr. Jeff agreed to follow up on this.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

John Tabaracci
acting secretary