

Church of the Resurrection Finance Council Meeting Minutes

7:15 p.m. 27/Sept/2017

The mission of the parish Finance Council is to promote stewardship as a way of life, to insure that parish resources are used in accordance with the principles of stewardship and to secure the financial stability of the parish for future generations

Members Present:

James Pfeifer Chairperson (2018), Greg Davied (2019), Fred Knoblach (2019), Bill Cook (2019), Jan Goers (2018), Christine Looney (2018), and Fr. Weldon

Absent: Sara Peiffer (2020), Erin Seghers (2020), Nick Bombardier (2020)

Also present: Parish Bookkeeper, Jodi Coulter,

Meeting agenda – The Meeting agenda follows with each topic highlighted and discussion points from each following in regular type.

Opening Prayer – Fr. Weldon calling upon the intercession of St. Vincent de Paul and a Hail Mary

Approval of Aug Minutes – approved as per e-mail to committee and hard copies provided.

Presentation from the Stewardship Committee – Stewardship committee chairperson Teresa Lee and new chair(s) Laura & Neil Kerschen provided an update on their activities. They reported on plans for the upcoming, Nov 4/5th Stewardship fair. Our council is interested in trends and the intent is to count attendance this year.

The action was taken for Finance Committee to include a booth or have some form of participation.

A primary measure of stewardship activity is completed forms from the November drive. Last year about 52% of the parish returned a completed form. There were still 324 with No financial commitment submitted.

The group reported receiving good advice from diocesan meetings and the chancery office. The discussion included the plus/minuses of online forms. St. Thomas Aquinas gets over ½ of their responses online, but Blessed Sacrament has not found any increase in participation.

Follow up with those not completing forms was mentioned. One simple way to help with that might be the new neighborhood group activity.

As for volunteers, the leadership positions appear to be generally well covered. There are always some areas thin in the ranks and lacking motivation. No trend is evident, but it will be interesting to see the “2nd generation” of stewards taking over the helm.

More classes and training are also a consideration. Perhaps education through the welcoming group is appropriate to provide a more personal approach.

Review of Financials – Next month should show us back on track to budget due to a large donation this month. It is a good start to the year and has us tracking about 3% above last year.

School Auction and matching funds are being pulled from savings to cover some bathroom upgrades, textbooks and other expenses.

The School Matching Gifts program was discussed. This benefit could bring a healthy influx into the RCS ledgers. It needs parish wide type advertisement. The Finance committee should do more to determine who in the parish can participate and make them aware of the benefits. The action was taken to produce an insert for the stewardship packets before they go out in November.

School Items:

Advanced Algebra - See response from Kori below – Currently 5 students are in the class funded as part of the school curriculum. Discussion is needed on the going forward plan for consistency in future years. It should include the proper balance of special needs and early level classroom expenses against the upper grades and

advanced needs. Bill has volunteered to partner with the school council for this and other such discussions. He may alternate with other Finance Council members in this school council support role.

School expansion feasibility study – Fred briefed the Stewardship committee members on the study. He will also present an update to the Pastoral Advisory council on Saturday, September 30th.

Guidelines and Best Practices – A discussion on Tithing Accountability was planned for the October meeting. Some group statistics would be helpful.

Membership and Structure - Cross membership on committees – It was proposed to include 2 members in a rotation on the School Advisory Council. Bill Cook has volunteered with another member TBD. Nick has served as Pastoral council liaison previously. This and Stewardship will be discussed further as necessary. It may not be required to actually have someone in attendance monthly if a less time consuming option suffice.

Items from the floor – Meeting adjourned due to time.

Old Business and Actions:

Action James - Finance Committee needs a booth or some form of participation at the annual Stewardship fair in November.

Action Greg - The action was taken to produce an insert for the stewardship packets before they go out in November regarding the RCS Company Gift Matching program.

Action Bill - Bill has volunteered to partner with the school council School Advisory Council to determine the future course of Advance Algebra and other such curriculum.

Old actions:

RCS school website <http://resurrectionwichita.com/admission-requirements> should be updated with admission item #3 discussed in June meeting, regarding current financial pledge. WIP - More discussion required. It's not assigned & we have no agreement on what the website should state.

James & Fred to assure Pastoral Advisory Council briefed on School Expansion study. Closed

Closing Prayer – Fr. Weldon led the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting: October 25th 2017, 7:15pm