

Meeting Minutes **August 10, 2017**

Present: Father Prakash, John Bacon, Tracy Hartley, Dan Lay, Romeo Opichka, Steve Scalzo, Philip Stramski and Joe Tytanic. **Absent:** Ali Brzozowski

Call to Order: Joe Tytanic called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked for silence of cell phones. Joe Tytanic asked for visitors to refrain from commenting as visitors will have an opportunity to comment on items discussed at end of meeting. Joe read off the agenda items for members and visitors.

Opening Prayer: Philip Stamski

Approval/Changes of meeting minutes: Tracy will add a clarification to the welcoming of the new member, Romeo. Philip made motion to accept with changes. Romeo second. All agreed. Motion carried by all.

Financial Report: Rick Villerama. Rick provided an update of the financial report. Basic overviews: Fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. Cash Balance: PDLF - \$444,520; Operating Account - \$85,298; Building Fund Account - \$4,945. EOY church statistics: 579 persons in parish; 239 family units; 215 contributors according to envelopes. Summary year end: Did better this year than last year. Cash came in right about budget but well under budget on expenditures. Capital expenditure: statues, piano, ice maker, playground, networking (internet) and still able to put \$50k to PDLF from operating account. Item to note: net expense for religious education fell about \$5 due to grant from Catholic Foundation. See performance against prior year sheet.

Overview of upcoming budget: Upcoming budget based upon expenditure and income for prior year. The budgeted collections will remain fairly flat. Last year budget was \$274k but budgeted for collections this year at \$270k. Most everything falls in line with prior year's budget. Agreed to provide the Parish Council for charitable giving. Calculated at \$5,500 for this year. Last year, Council spent on 2-3 charitable projects. Last year, we spent all of the \$5,500 – maybe a little bit over. There were not many big things provided to Financial Committee for the upcoming year – mainly general repairs. There is some equipment – like the projector and some other things. Projected about \$16k for this year for that type of capital expenditures. Steve asked about the comparison to the prior years and if there was an anomaly for 2015-16? Rick said we had two years for ACDL. Paid nothing this year and had some special services last year. Steve said that we finished under for this year but the budget was quite a bit higher. \$238 was significantly above the last three year's budget except for that one. We did increase it some even though we came in under the budget – which is a good thing. Steve also reviewed some of the numbers with Rick. He also asked about special collections – we came in under. Did we stop giving? Rick is not sure why that is why it was that way. They initially projected \$20k and brought it down to \$10k. Kevin asked if special collections included cemetery donations? No. Anything that comes in to St. Teresa for cemetery collections, they write a check to the cemetery. Rick said to take some time to go

through and if there are any questions, please let him know. Philip asked if the \$16k budgeted, does it take into account of the potential purchase of the property? No, Rick was not aware of any potential property purchase at the time this budget was prepared. Joe said that it did include lawncare which we did not have and a sprinkler system which we did not put in which may be why we under some.

Cemetery Report: Kevin Terrell. Kevin went over the report for 2017. See Report. Perpetual Care Donations: \$4,220. Interest \$730 on CD invested. Total revenue for the year \$6,350. Operating expenses \$3,683 primarily mowing and spraying five times the cemetery. Net cost of \$3,683. Gain was \$2,667. No transfers for the year. Cash beginning \$5,051. Cash EOY - \$7,719. Cash Checking on 6/30/17 \$5,382; Cash Savings \$495; Bonds/Stocks \$76,121; CD \$121,144; EOY Total All Cash \$203,142. Total lots sold 2017 was 14. Sold to-date was 1,439. Have remaining plots in cemetery 283. Steve commented that they had quite a bit more donations. Last year, donations were down. But, this year it went up. Cemetery raised from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for people from the outside. One of the reasons we did that because we asked a question about a plot at a neighboring cemetery. Theirs is \$500. Kevin said that our cemetery is for Catholics and members of our church. Kevin had to turn people away. If they have relatives, they consider that. The \$1,500 is for non-parish members. Non-Catholic cannot necessarily buy for \$1,500. They bring up that in a meeting with Father. If Council has any questions, please contact Kevin.

Old Business:

Church Projects/Repair Update: John Bacon. Our maintenance man is doing our flowerbeds and has done a good job. Tracy said that she has received compliments on that. Joe said he even roto-tilled around the Rectory. Need to buy some more mulch in the Spring to put around. Signs – still working on. Have a couple of them up. Getting one redone. Looking good once they can get all done. Not charging any more for correcting a couple of them. Total cost was \$515. Tracy said that is a good price. Joe said it was well worth it.

New Year's Eve Party: Tracy Hartley. Still have not heard from Glenn. She also had not had a chance to call around. She asked Joe about the band. Joe said they could do it but needed to check with one guy. He plays at a place and had to make sure he was not playing that night. They did not have a cost yet but will let us know. When Joe gets it, he would text out to everybody. Tracy said that she would reach out to Ali as she was supposed to come back with feedback from the youth group. That may impact which way we want to go. If you have an older crowd, the band might be the better option. Joe asked if we had anyone checking with Edie? No one had been in contact with her. Philip said her husband is a Knight and would try to get in contact with her. Tracy suggested that we be ready to vote next meeting so that we can have time to book. No one had any idea on the cost. Philip said to remember that even though you may have a price they normally do throughout the year, it will be bumped up for that night.

Trees – Tracy will try to have pricing for the trees for the next meeting. She plans on going to Tony's Tree Plantation and talk with them and maybe a couple of other little ones. Joe said that he is Catholic.

Used to go to St. Philip Neri. Might be able to get us a good deal. Will need to look at doing that in October/November and by February

RE Repairs: Joe Tytanic. Came out and gave a bid on the classrooms with this new tile – 8600 sq. feet @\$4.50 = \$36,550 plus \$1,800 feet of base @ \$1.50 = \$2,700. Total cost is \$39,250. Steve asked if it was for the high dollar stuff. Joe said that it is like the flooring in Braum's. \$4.50 a foot. Putting it in hallways, classrooms, offices, restrooms. Dan and Steve said they do not remember discussing \$4.50 or hallway. Even without the hallway, it is still incredible. Joe said that he also gave tile where we have tile and carpet where we have carpet. Joe did not ask for this. But he provided. Luxury vinyl plank everything including base but where the carpet is quoted \$11,250 and carpet for classrooms is \$19,950 if we re-did the carpet. We are not going to be able to get anything done and if everyone in agreement, he has a bid for \$1,120 to clean the carpets in the classrooms from Sunbelt Carpet and have ready for kids. That is just for classrooms. If we want to do the office and hallway on south end that has carpet, Joe will see if he can throw that in. He can clean it prior to school year. Steve asked if we were only going to get one bid. Joe said no. He is also working with Stan on trying to get bid on just doing straight cement, either staining or like Wal-Mart. Joe said that Harrah Church has it and he talked with the guy he met over there said that he would get him the information. That was about three weeks ago. Joe said that he will get a bid on that and then another bid from another tile company too. Joe said he thought we should at least get the carpet cleaned before the school year starts. Tracy said that she agrees too as it really does need to be cleaned. Joe said he does not think it has ever been cleaned. Tracy said that this is not going to be an easy thing to decide because of the expense so we need to go ahead and get the carpets cleaned. All agreed to clean. Romeo said that it needed it badly, especially on the south end because when they moved everything from Our Lady, they moved it in on that end. Dan had a question about the \$40k bid and if it included removing the existing. Joe said no. That only includes installing new, not taking out. Taking out was \$2-something a foot. Joe said we would probably take out ourselves. \$4.50 was just tile and installing. That does not require maintenance like waxing. They have in Braum's. Tracy said she has it but could not remember the name. Joe said they called it Luxury Vinyl plank. Tracy said they have it to look like wood with the ridges and such. Joe said he would get carpets cleaned and asked when classes begin. Tracy said the first week of September. Tracy also said they have a meeting with RE teachers in two weeks.

Purchase of Knight Property: Philip Stramski. Knights are currently in process of doing research on that. They have to have the land contract first. Right now, the Council has to look at signing authority on the property. He is looking into that right now. That property has been in the Knights' name for 50 years and nothing has been done with it. Some work they need to do on their end. Hopefully, will have something by this week. Then, we can move forward on getting a contract. He said cost-wise, Kevin called the title company. Kevin said that closing cost would be less than \$1k and largest expense would be title insurance. That would be optional. Philip was not sure if we had required that in the past. Joe said that the Archdiocese requires it as far as if an abstract is not with it. Need to have in case someone comes back. Philip said that it is in the works.

Electronic Church Sign: Joe Tytanic. Father gave a picture to Joe of Soldier Creek's sign. It is a little bit smaller than St. Philip Neri's. Steve said that the one at St. Philip Neri is smaller than what the picture looks like. Tracy said that the display is smaller on the Soldier Creek one. Joe said that Scott Manwell contacted him a couple of weeks ago and said that his daughter is with a company that does this and he is having her look into that and could maybe save us some money. He said that she may come to the meeting. Joe just asked if he would let him know so he can get her on the agenda but he had not heard from him on this meeting. Joe asked that if someone sees a sign, to take a picture. He did say that most people he talked with said we need it on Harrah Road (Church St.). Steve said that is where there is the traffic. Father would like to maybe have two. Janet Martin said that she would rather have it up in front of the church. Steve said that it would look nicer in front of the church but the traffic is down there by the cemetery. Tracy said that the Newalla Church has its sign by Harrah Road instead of by the church. Janet said there is plenty of traffic on Tim Holt. Joe said that if he does not hear from Scott, he will reach out to him. Philip asked if the focus is on the sign part or digital reading. What is our intent. Joe said that it is the digital sign. One thing we want to do is to be able to have it digital. Asked Philip if he saw St. Philip Neri's sign. It is \$22k. Janet said she thought it was ok. She thought it was pretty big and had the top part that was pretty big. Steve said that he thought it was bigger from the picture and when he drove by, it was not as big. Philip said that is nice. Joe said that it can be programmed on your cell phone or anywhere you are at. You do not have to be in the area to program. When he talked to the lady about it, she was out of town and was changing the wording on it. Philip said that it is a nice sign. If we are talking about two, we may not need to have one that tall out in front. Joe said the company they got it from was in Nebraska. Dan asked that if we were talking about putting it down there on Church St., what are we going to do with the nice marble sign we just had fixed. Are we going to put a giant sign next to it? Joe said probably not. We can either go south or opposite on Beal. Why not move that sign down there and move the other up here. Philip added to not worry about a reader with this one. Or, Dan added, to find a reader that might go over the top of the marble one and that does not cost \$20 grand and does what we need it to do. Philip asked what we have here (in front). Joe said that we have the brick one. Steve added the historic one. Dan said we do not need to have two of them in one place.

Buying Property for the Cemetery: Joe Tytanic. Joe talked about buying the Phillip Sutton house on Navarre right next to the cemetery. He would sell it for \$63,000. Joe has not had Marsha Nation look at it yet. She was going to look at it at one time. But, Joe found out that he does not want to sell it until May of next year as he is going to be driving a bus. But now, Kevin said that Phillip would sell to the church now and pay \$600 to the church in rent until May. His payment is \$600 a month now. Kevin has been inside it now. Dan asked what is the intent in buying all of this property. What are we going to do with all this property? Joe said that it is for future growth. This is for the cemetery. Dan asked what we were going to do with that land down below. Do we have any idea what we are going to do with it? He calculated using 15 plots average, would take 95 years to fill that and 20 years to fill what we have. They asked Kevin what the average was. Not sure. Off top of head would be about 20 but would research. Joe said that Father has talked to the Archbishop and relayed that the Church is interested in buying all the property from the cemetery back since we have the Block property, if we get the Knight's property and eventually buy Kevin's property that he purchased for the Church. We have Nation's property that we bought over on Navarre St. It is protecting our area. If we do not buy it, someone else will buy.

Steve said that if you are looking at the growth of the Church, and if you believe that the City of Harrah will grow, especially with the wonderful turnpike going in, then, it would make sense to have all of that but do not get it just for cemetery but for growth. But, that is a long way down the road. Joe said that you have to designate for a specific thing with the Archdiocese. If you do not designate, then it is in a different pile, you have to pay taxes on it. To claim as tax exempt, we have to earmark it for cemetery use. But, if we purchase this property and we rent, then we will have to pay taxes anyway. A lot of other churches does that – some whole neighborhoods, like St. Philip Neri. Steve asked if we earmark for cemetery, does it have to stay cemetery? Joe said no. Steve confirmed that we can change it but earmark it for that. Romeo added that, at one time, there was a plan to build a Youth Center on that piece of property down there but was dropped early in the renovation.

Fathers Comments: Father Prakash. His new ordained Bishop will be visiting, making mission appeals in the U.S. Will be visiting Fr. Prakash and other priests. Will be staying the September 9th-12th. He will not be here to celebrate Sunday Masses. Father asked if it might be possible to have a reception on Sunday evening so he could meet us and to have us meet with him. Father has talked with the Catholic Daughters and they are willing to arrange to have drinks and something to eat. They decided to have a reception for him. His name is Bishop Chinna Chibathini. Reception will be Sunday, September 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Father Stanley Rother's Beautification: Father said that the list is full. The first page is full and the second has some names (for the bus). Dan said that some people had not seen the list. Joe said that it is inside the church on the table in the back. Father said that it also had multiple numbers besides the names. Joe asked if there was many on the list to watch in the Family Center. Father said not that many. Steve said that is probably because many can watch on TV. Joe said that Kathy said the Archdiocese contacted us about buses to arrange parking. Tracy asked if it would just be one bus. Joe said that depends on how many signs up. Pat Jorski asked how many can fit on a bus. Joe thinks between 40-45. Tracy asked if Kathy was arranging for the bus. Joe was not sure. St. Vincent de Paul had a bus once that went downtown. Asked Kathy to find out who from there arranged it to find out information. Tracy said that it is just around the corner – September 23rd. We need to look at reserving or what it would take to reserve. Joe said he would get with Kathy. Tracy said that she can check with her friend that was Quarterback Club president as they would book buses on long trips for football players. Joe wondered if we could use school buses. Tracy was not sure because of insurance. It is on a Saturday. If we can arrange to utilize Harrah School buses and drivers, that would be great. Tracy asked if we know of any current drivers. They said that David Drew used to drive for Harrah Schools. Also, Debbie Malaske, maybe? Also thought we could check with Paul Blessington, Superintendent. He generally goes to church at Jones. Will probably have to be approved by the School Board.

Visitor Comments:

Pat Jorski asked who to contact on road maintenance with the town of Harrah. Joe said City Manager, Earl Burleson. She wants to complain about the potholes in road by Church.

Council Comments:

Romeo asked about buildings and maintenance – do we have a long-range plan what maintenance might be required 10-15 years down the road? Joe asked what kind of maintenance? Anything. Floors – when do they need replacing. Joe said we do not have one. Romeo said that on finishing concrete floors, find out the company that did the floor at the BX. That floor is beautiful. Joe said that Wal-Mart looks good too. Stan said that on those type of floors, they burn it and then put some type of acrylic on it. Do not want what we have in the kitchen that scratches – no paint. They do not have to have fresh concrete. Tracy said they put some type of thin-set. Romeo said that they have different colors. Joe said there is no maintenance involved. Tracy said that would be great too. Joe said that it is comparable to carpet.

Next Meeting: Father has an International Priests meeting on September 6th and 7th. Meeting will be September 14th, 7:00 p.m.

Assignment of Prayer: Romeo Opichka

Motion to adjourn: Philip Stramski; Steve second; All agreed. Motion carried.