

**St. Theresa of the Child Jesus
Finance Council Minutes
November 14, 2024**

Present: Jeanne Thill, Judy Kendzora, Jimmy Sarcone, Kevin Olsen, Aaron Freiss, Paul Johnson

Absent: Mary Gisler, Sergio Loch

Ex-Officio: John McMichael, Kenneth Seymour, Fr. Raphael Assamah,

Guest: Gretchen Watznauer: Principal, Randy Hanten

The meeting began at 5:34 PM on November 14, 2024 with a quorum present. Fr Raphael led us in an opening prayer.

Introductions of finance council members were made to Randy; potential member of the finance council.

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting: Aaron Freiss moved and Kevin Olsen seconded for approval of the minutes from the October 10, 2024 meeting. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

Reports:

School – Gretchen Watznauer. Current enrollment 83%, added a 2 year old, 3rd grader and 5th grader. Enrolling for 25-26 school year; 117 families have reserved their seats for next year for a total of 178 students. 66% have re-enrolled as compared to 46% last year. During Catholic Schools Week, enrollment will be open for potential students.

Regionalization Plan updates - Gretchen. Kenneth, Fr. Raphael and Gretchen met with Tim Shulte, the new COO of the region earlier this week. We will be moving into the region as of July 1. Tim will be attending the principal and business manager meetings. Budgeting will happen in ParishSoft and will work together to build budgets.

Monthly Financials (distributed in advance) – John McMichael. As of 10-31-24, we are currently \$14,000 ahead of budget. Our tithing and plate, holding steady for the year. On child care, under revenue projections primarily due to fewer children. Brightwheel is managing accounts receivable for fees. First government check received (typically monthly) for school lunches.

ADA updates – John McMichael During September, the balance due towards the ADA goal was achieved. Anticipate a small refund from the Diocese.

Laddered CD's – John McMichael Five CDs currently being held and within next week will review how we want to reinvest.

Pastor's Report – Father Raphael

1. Plate collection for Building & Maintenance fund. The last collection yielded \$ 4,842. Next collection is scheduled for the weekend of November 16 & 17

2. Staff Retreat & Reflection and lunch: This is scheduled for December 12 th @ 9 – 1:30pm

3. Proposed Christmas gift (card) for staff: The last Christmas gift was in 2021 as a thank you for the challenges faced during Covid. Kenneth will make recommendation for 2024.

4. There will be a brief talk on ADA this coming weekend. The focus is to seek more participation and encourage individuals to pay the pledge. Two members made additional contributions to pay off the ADA balance. An estimate for removal/disposal of existing carpet, Mohawk carpet squares, installation, cove base, transition/levelor strips was \$16,263. The plan is to make it a Christmas/Easter wish list. If there is not enough money to cover the cost, the Mardi Gras fundraising will go towards this project.

New Business:

Capital Campaign – Father Raphael

Father discussed need for a capital campaign to address some of the major facility issues includes:

Church & School HVAC

Church lights

Boiler: to investigate the pipe leakage.

Fr. Raphael offered a rough timeline for discussion purposes.

Putting a committee together and communication of intent to the diocese
(timeframe 3 months)

Feasibility study and communication to the parish (by April 2025)

Proposed cost/bid and submission to the Diocese (by July 2025)

Fundraising discussion, Example, hiring to lead the campaign, duration of
the campaign, education, loan possibilities etc. (by December 2025)

Campaign kickoff (2026)

Unfinished Business:

Approval of Investment Policy: Paul Johnson motioned, Jeanne Thill seconded to approve the Investment Policy as distributed for meeting. Motion passed.

Business Conducted via Email: None

Next Meeting

No meeting in December. Next meeting Thursday, January 9, 2025

The meeting adjourned at 7pm with a closed prayer by Fr. Raphael.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Thill