

St. Edith Finance Council

Meeting Minutes

October 29, 2024

Attendees: Fr. Jim McNulty, Tom O'Meara, Matt Taggart, Greg Laskowsky, Maureen Szczypka, Tom Debolski, John Brady, Judy O'Meara

1. The meeting began at 7:00 pm with a prayer by Tom O'Meara.
2. It was moved by Tom Debolski and seconded by Greg Laskowsky to approve the September 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes.
3. Financial Statement Review – Three months ended September 30, 2024.  
Tom O'Meara reported that the school consolidated profit was \$231,656 (net of favorable timing differences of \$38,178). The church loss was \$36,890 (net of unfavorable timing differences of \$7,045).
4. Capital Projects—Current and Proposed.  
Greg Laskowsky gave a thorough overview of the Parking Lot Lights project. The members of the Finance Council agreed that the one LED light installed near the Chapel provided a significant increase in brightness. Greg distributed a detailed worksheet showing where additional lights will be installed throughout the parking lot. An additional estimate will be obtained from Jac Led Lighting before proceeding with the project.
5. Discuss Plan/Plans to Increase Offertory Collections.
  - (a) Matt Taggart introduced a plan entitled "Meet Your Match." According to the plan, an anonymous donor is willing to match parishioners' online monthly increases to St. Edith's Church for a pre-determined month. For example, if a donor increases his/her contribution by \$5 a week, then the donor would also contribute \$5 a week. Therefore, the parishioner's monthly increase of \$20 a month, plus the match of \$20 per month would mean the total Offertory contribution for that month would be a total of \$40. After much discussion, Fr. Jim and the members of the Finance Council enthusiastically accepted Matt's proposal. It was agreed that the implementation of the plan would begin in November, 2024. Matt will be introducing "Meet Your Match at the Masses during a weekend in November.
  - (b) Tom Debolski also presented the Finance Council with a variety of plans that have been used to encourage people to donate or increase donations to various organizations, including churches. The Finance Council agreed to submit an article to the bulletin periodically to introduce plans such as bequests, qualified charitable distributions, stock gifts, and life insurance gifts as ways to bolster the financial situation at St. Edith Church.
6. Review Draft Describing the Role of the Finance Council.  
In compliance with a request made by the Parish Council, Tom O'Meara presented the Finance Council with a proposed draft. There was some discussion. A revision was made to the draft, and Tom will be sending the approved document to the Parish Council.

7. General Discussion.

John Brady reported that the Parish Council has requested the following information from the Finance Council.

- (a) Volunteers. If volunteers are needed by the Finance Council in the future, such a request will be placed on the parish calendar. This topic needs further discussion/clarification. Accordingly, Tom O'Meara will place this item on the agenda for the November, 2024 Finance Council Meeting.
- (b) Restroom Door Openers. A request was made to have push button door openers installed for the restrooms used by the congregation. Tom O'Meara will ask Bob Calleja to obtain quotes.
- (c) Hospitality Envelopes. The Parish Council also requested how much money was raised by using the hospitality envelopes for coffee and donuts. Approximately, \$6,400 was collected.

8. Fr. Jim's Comments.

Fr. Jim stated that currently there is a \$15,000 shortfall for the CSA.

9. Closing Prayer.

The meeting ended at 8:45 P.M. with prayer.

**The next meeting will take place at 7:00 P.M on Tuesday, November 19, 2024.**

Respectfully submitted,

Judy O'Meara