

**GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC PARISH (GSCP)  
FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING  
St. Bernard Rectory  
February 19, 2025  
6:00 pm**

**PRESENT: Fr. Roder, Becky Vonnahme, Joe Behrens, Russ Riesenberger, Joel Dentlinger, Janet Muhlbauer, Ann Schmitz, Kassie Wernimont, Julie Eich and Cindy Lawler**

**ABSENT: Erin Sundrup and Ann Schmitz**

- 1. Prayer was led by Fr. Roder.**
- 2. Joe called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.**
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting were sent out to everyone on 2/11/25, via email.**

**Joel made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2025, meeting.**

**Becky seconded the motion.**

**All approved.**

**4. Financial Reports**

- a. Discussion regarding the Ameriprise account for the St. Bernard Endowment.
  - i. Jasen Tiefenthaler had reached out to Fr. Roder about withdrawing more money from the account for the GSCP assessment. Jasen was going to talk to Andrew Pick about another withdrawal.
  - ii. Fr. Roder will talk to Andrew Pick about:
    1. Can he get a list of what amounts were given toward the principal and if withdrawals can be made on a regular basis.
    2. Who ho can sign on the Ameriprise account.
  - iii. Becky will talk to Jasen Tiefenthaler about the role of the Finance Committee and how it affects the St. Bernard "endowment".
  - iv. Fr. Roder added that the principal should be respected as the parishioners who donated to the "endowment" did so with the understanding that only the interest would be used.
- b. Father shared that Russ Schelle, Trustee for the Wente Estate had approached him asking if there was anything specific needed for the St. Bernard church or rectory that the Estate could pay for. Father asked him if it could pay for the new water softener that had been installed in the rectory. Russ will send a check to cover that expense. Russ reiterated that funds from the Wente Trust cannot be used for general operating expense.
- c. Father shared that the GSCP Kuemper assessment will be much lower for the 2025-26 school year since the ESA will be available to all students who apply.
  - i. Father also shared that the plan for the past assessments is to pay off GSCP's oldest debt, the 2021-22 school year, before July 1, 2025. Starting with the new fiscal year regular monthly payments will be applied to the GSCP 2025-26 school year assessment. The two years, 2022-23 and 2023-

24, will “sit on the books” for now. The St. Augustine past debt will stay on the books and parishioners will be encouraged to continue paying off this debt.

- ii. Joel shared that the Kuemper school board would like to write off the GSCP 2022-23 and 2023-24 and take those two years off their books.
  - 1. It was questioned if Kuemper can go ahead and take them off their books, but GSCP still track those amounts and work toward paying those off with any funds available that would go above and beyond the regular payments that will be made in 2025-26.

**Joel made a motion to accept the Financial Reports.**

**Becky seconded the motion.**

**All approved.**

## **5. Old Business**

### **a. Breda School RFP**

- i. There has been no additional interest in the St. Bernard School
- ii. Becky will prepare a new blurb for the bulletin and Facebook.

### **b. Halbur Church Door Replacement**

- i. Council members voted via email earlier in the week on whether to order one of the doors with a crash bar. The majority voted not to include the added expense of a crash bar.
  - 1. Fr. Roder said that he gave the go ahead for Iris Nees to order the doors without crash bars.

### **c. Development Director**

- i. The position has been filled. Megan Werden has been hired. Becky explained that Megan has very good communication skills and a background in marketing. Megan will begin her position on Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **d. Sacred Heart Building Project Update**

- i. Joe reported that the doors have been delivered, they just need to be painted and installed.
- ii. Joe received an email today from Dustin Heino explaining what Catholic Mutual is willing to pay toward the insurance claim.
  - 1. Roof repair--\$2,229.51
  - 2. Sheet metal labor for temp repair--\$1,600.00
  - 3. Sheet metal material for temp repair--\$243.96
  - 4. Riehle decorating--\$46,800.00
  - 5. Gross covered loss--\$46,873.47
  - 6. Less 10% deductible--\$4,687.35
  - 7. Net payable claim--\$42,186.12**
- iii. The general consensus was to go ahead and accept that amount from Catholic Mutual.
- iv. Joe will reply back to Dustin that the council is good with his figures and Joe will send Cindy the breakdown of what was paid by the Celebration fund and what was paid from the general fund so both funds can be reimbursed once the insurance check arrives.

### **e. St. John's 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration Update**

- i. There will be another planning committee meeting tomorrow night.
- ii. The float has not been found yet.

- iii. The committee has been having trouble recruiting volunteers to help with the celebration so that will be discussed at the meeting.

**f. St. Augustine and St. John Rectories**

- i. Nothing new to discuss.

**g. Security Cameras/Locking Churches**

- i. Joe explained that Sacred Heart has asked Feld Security to give them a quote on cameras for the church. The quote was quite expensive so he will check into getting additional bids.
  - 1. Fr. Roder showed the council video from the system St. Bernard has installed in the church by D/R Electric. It is a motion detected system that can be pulled up on a phone or computer.
  - 2. Janet asked if having cameras in all of the churches would lower insurance rates. Joe said he would ask Dustin that question when he talks to him about the insurance claim.

**h. Tuckpointing at Holy Angels**

- i. Russ has confirmed with C&D Masonry that GSCP has accepted their bid for tuckpointing. C&D hopes to start work at Holy Angels in June.
- ii. Cindy had the necessary Resolution documents prepared so that the directors could sign them at tonight's meeting. Cindy will ensure they are sent to the Diocese for final approval.
- iii. Cindy asked about the CD at Templeton Savings Bank (TSB) for the 150<sup>th</sup> as it will mature tomorrow. Joe said that the bank could do another 6-month CD at 4.3% and there would be no penalty if the money needed to be taken out early. The council agreed to roll it over into the 6-month CD at TSB. Joe will take care of rolling over this CD.
  - 1. Russ stated that the Holy Angels foundation could pay the deposit on the tuckpointing if it is needed before the CD matures.

**i. Carroll County Emergency Management (CCEM)**

- i. Cindy contacted Jeff Cullen at CCEM and explained that GSCP includes six church sites, not just the ones he had listed in his letter/agreement. Jeff said he would update his information and get back to GSCP.

**j. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel organ generator**

- i. Ann emailed everyone today and said that her husband Gary will take care of fixing the generator after the state wrestling tournament is over.

**k. Bookkeeper position**

- i. Cindy explained that the job posting was sent to other area Catholic Churches to be posted in their bulletins: St. Rose in Denison; St. John Paul II and St. Joseph's in Wall Lake.
- ii. The council decided to wait a couple more weeks to give people time to see those bulletins and maybe get more applicants before starting the interview process.

**6. New Business**

- a. Joe asked if and how the Sacred Heart Guild can buy trays for the fish fry. Father explained that a designee, usually the Guild President, can purchase items and then submit the receipt to GSCP for reimbursement. The Guild funds would pay for the items.

- i. Joe asked if they could go ahead and purchase some trays as they are usually short trays at the Fish Fry. The council agreed that the purchase is needed and Joe can go ahead and get the trays.
- b. Joe asked if \$500 could be donated to the cost of the fireworks at the street dance from the Celebration Fund. The council members agreed to that donation.
- c. Russ suggested that money raised from the OLMC Pancake Breakfast be used for new furnaces at OLMC. He also wondered if money from the OLMC Men's and Women's group could also go toward the furnaces. This discussion was tabled for now.

## **7. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- a. First Communion will be celebrated at regular Masses the weekend of March 29/30.
- b. Labor Day weekend—St. John's 150<sup>th</sup> celebration

## **8. NEXT MEETING**

- a. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 27th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in Halbur.

**Becky made a motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.**

**Russ seconded the motion.**

**All approved.**

**Respectfully submitted.**

**Cindy Lawler**

<b>TASK TO BE COMPLETE</b>	<b>WHO WILL COMPLETE</b>	<b>DATE TO COMPLETE</b>
Talk to Andrew Pick about questions regarding the SB endowment fund.	Fr. Roder	ASAP
Talk to Jasen Tiefenthaler regarding the Finance Council's role in relation to the SB endowment fund.	Beck	ASAP
Prepare a blurb for the bulletin regarding the RFP for the St. Bernard School building	Becky	ASAP
Reply to Dustin Heino about the Sacred Heart insurance claim AND ask Dustin if having cameras in the churches would lower insurance costs.	Joe	ASAP
Roll over Holy Angels' CD	Joe	ASAP
Repair the generator for the organ at OLMC	Gary Schmitz	ASAP
Order trays for Fish Fry	Joe	ASAP