

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING - September 9, 2024**

The Finance Council of Divine Grace Parish met via Zoom for the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. Jamie Shearer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with an opening prayer from Father Jim Wehner.

Attendance: Amy Behun, Jay Cortez, Felicia DiNardo, Chelsea Knapton, Licia Lentz, Frank Lordi, Kate Maseth-Ready, Jamie Shearer, Frances Tartal, Father Jim Wehner, Andrew Welch

Guests: Chaz Bowers, Jeff Kirk, John Zelhart

Absent/Excused: Peter Boyer, Joe Ennis, Daniel Jenkins, Mike Powell

Jamie thanked everyone for agreeing to meet on a date other than the regularly scheduled date. Jamie referenced the 2024 Festival Income Report which he provided electronically to members prior to the meeting. He expressed hope that everyone is pleased with the net profit. The festival finances will be discussed further at our next meeting. The bottom line will change as we are receiving last minute invoices. Father Jim congratulated Jamie and Judy Shearer for their efforts and the success of the festival, and offered many thanks to all the volunteers for their hard work and determination to make the festival such a success.

The next topic of conversation was the organ repair at the St. Gregory campus. Members were provided an in-depth description of the organ and its current state of functionality. The organ has significant history and "standing" among organs. (See attachments describing the organ and its significance). Our guests facilitated the discussion; explaining that it is a work that should be preserved. As we age, so do organs and renovations and repairs are required as well as updates to ensure its longevity and to provide modernization. The modernization will include linking the pipe system to state of the art electronics.

The contract for these efforts will cost \$562,435 and includes restoration of the organ, its pipes and integration of electronics and digital components. The contract also includes a warranty on parts for two years and labor for two years. The pipes will be removed, cleaned, repaired, and generally improved to guarantee its future as a masterpiece in the world of organs. This contract is a commitment to excellence that will ensure delivering music to the St. Gregory community for generations to come.

Father Jim stated that while that figure is daunting, we have already received \$105,000 in donations toward this project. He anticipates that it will eventually be funded entirely through donations. To that end, a campaign for donors will be established (see attached information) and it is hoped that parishioners will help in our efforts to preserve our organ.

Frances asked if two contractors are required for the organ and the answer was yes. One contractor will refurbish the organ and the other will integrate the electronic components. Jamie asked about the current cost of maintenance. It runs anywhere between \$2,500 to \$3,500 per organ. He also asked if there are any special power needs associated with the electronic/digital components. The answer was that special surge protection is included. Jamie also discussed the need for additional insurance once the renovations are completed. The value of the organ will increase from approximately \$800,000 to \$1.5 to \$1.75 million. Jay asked if there were any

constraints regarding construction. There may be an issue regarding mini-splits, but it is believed that these are minor.

The contract will require a deposit of one-half the cost of the contract. Kate asked if there is any grant money available. Jon Zelhart stated that there has been no grant money available since before 2020. Jamie suggested that there may be some historic preservation funds available, and this issue will be researched.

It was suggested that the new marketing employee could generate the fundraising efforts with advertisements (buy a note, buy a stop, buy a key, etc.).

A motion to accept the two contracts as submitted and endorse projects based on fundraising activities/efforts as presented was made by Licia. Frances offered the second. All were in favor. Deacon Don will initiate Form B.

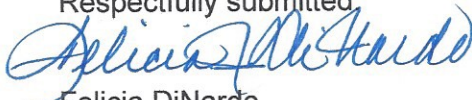
Thank you to the guests was offered and they exited the meeting.

The next item for consideration is the new roof for the St. Ferdinand rectory. The building was erected in 1963, and it is not known if the roof was ever replaced. Three bids were received, and it is the recommendation of the Temporalities Committee that the contract be awarded to Bucci's Roofing at a cost of \$69,515. There was discussion regarding the use of OSB versus plywood and several members felt that OSB is not the superior material. Deacon Don will address this with Bucci's Roofing and he felt that the contract contingency will offset any additional costs if necessary. A motion to accept Form B as submitted was made by Kate with the caveat that the issue of OSB versus plywood be resolved. Frank offered the second. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Jamie reported that we will be back to regularly scheduled meeting dates beginning in October 2024. We will be discussing the St. Agatha property. The November meeting will be devoted to discussing stewardship and diocese representatives will be in attendance.

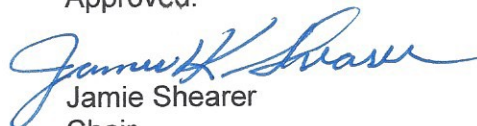
Fr. Jim closed with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Felicia DiNardo  
Recording Secretary

Approved:



Jamie Shearer  
Chair