# CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY REAL ESTATE CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2023 Pastoral Center, 27 C Street, Salt Lake City, Utah

#### **PRESENT**

Most Reverend Oscar A. Solis Reverend Monsignor Colin F. Bircumshaw Deacon George Reade (Zoom) Fred Strasser Mark Longe Candice Greenwald Sarah Niemann, Secretary

### NOT PRESENT

Michael Kladis, Director

## CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER:

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM with opening prayer by Bishop Solis.

## **APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 26, 2022 MINUTES**

Mark Longe made the motion to approve the minutes. Fred Strasser seconded. Msgr. Colin asked for the vote on the motion to approve the minutes. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

**JUDGE MEMORIAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL** - Deacon George gave an overview of all the information on the following:

"The board have had a couple of meetings with senior staff, Patrick Lambert, JMCHS principal, and Mark Longe, Superintendent of Catholic Schools on campaign issues to raise money for the objective of building a new Judge High School. We need to get on with the campaign donor part of this to see if we are going to be able to move forward with the project realistically. It was decided to put off the second phase of the general campaign for six months so we have some time to look at our so called "Big Guns" or big donors and what they will come forward with and to tie that down first.

Judge High School contracted with CCS starting on January 2023 to have a person here in Utah that's consulting with them full time for the next six months. They will be approaching those people hopefully within the next couple months, so we'll have some idea of what they will give us. Then we will know what we have, the estimate of the sale of the land, this is what we have already as promised gifts by the major donors from Judge Memorial High School, and this is what we have from the large, deep pockets of the big donors. Depending on where we're at, we'll either open the cap of the capital campaign up or

we go to the bishop to decide whether we continue the project. At the same time, we asked Patrick to work with the architects. With cost estimates rising, we need to determine if we can't raise enough money, can we get the scaled down version and still meet the goals of relocating the school keeping the same model intact. So, it may not be with all the bells and whistles and all the extra rooms, we may scale that down depending on how much money we're able to raise. "

Bishop said "bottom line is we have the understanding with Patrick that it is very critical to identify their big donors at this point of time. The consultation with CCS of this phase is underwritten by a donor. The second phase might not be included. Patrick had asked for a period of time until June 2023, to see if they can come up with and identify further commitments from those people. At the same time, we will try to approach those families involved to figure out how much they can commit to this project. Hopefully that will bring a spark together with the commitment of the big donors or "Big Guns" to see that this is really a viable plan to relocate and rebuild a new high school."

Mark added that "originally the plan was to find out what we could generate with the sale of the land, coupled with what we think we could raise within the Judge community and the general Catholic community so we could go to those big donors and they will know we have been working, and are contributing."

Mark confirmed what Bishop said earlier, "that a donor has underwritten CCS feasibility work and the first phase. And the same donor will cover the second phase of the capital campaign. The only other expenditure that Judge has been paying was for the architects. Judge has also suspended the ongoing planning with the architects with regards to the original model and are working with them to help us look at different scaling down of the original plan, if necessary. It may not be necessary as we're planning to make our case to say that as Bishop mentioned to let the donors know why we're doing it. It is important for us that we can present the case to the donors and say this is the project. But if at the end of the day, after we approach those major donors, we're not close to that then, we may have to go to the scaled down version. But we're not there yet because we just don't know what those donors will give us."

#### **BISHOP COMMENTS**

"This is a very critical moment when we could integrate the whole vision of the diocese incorporating all these discussions. We have not started the strategic planning yet with regards to the future development of our parishes and missions, or Catholic schools in the diocese. There have already been some exploratory measures that have been put in place to see if we can build new churches. We're utilizing valid or relevant data. We're operating based on reactions because we know that there is growth coming here. And the growth over there is where the church and school are no longer suited for the kind of growth in that area. Now is the perfect time to come up with a systematic study and analysis of this growth. It's not only growth but also the shifting demographics that affected our churches. There are churches that had lost a lot of their membership and still maintain two to three masses a

weekend. Also, concerns are being voiced in Council of Priests meeting about studying the number of masses being celebrated in the parishes right now, or the consolidation of parishes. Everything is happening all at the same time. Take the consultation to come up with the strategic planning for the diocese – we're thinking about building parishes, we're talking about schools and the diocese mission for the next coming years. There is a shifting of demographics here in the city. Most gentrification is now in the suburbs. So, in conclusion, the idea of having the Meitler study is a very wise decision so that we have a schematic study and data that will support the vision and planning of our diocese whether consolidation or contractions or integration of much smaller communities and parishes to become stronger, and it will."

Bishop also made a comment that he "is serious about Judge Memorial Catholic High School. I believe that Judge has a rich tradition of 100 years with a list of 170+ incoming freshmen. So, it is a good trend and is happening right now. The most important thing is that if we don't do anything for the future of Judge Memorial Catholic HS, we might not have a Catholic High School in this city."

## **NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT**

Msgr. Colin announced that we move directly to the Diocesan Finance Council meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled sometime in May 2023. This meeting was adjourned at 2:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Sarah Niemann