

Pax Christi Collaborative Finance Council Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2017
6:00-7:00 p.m.

Facilitators: Fr. Chris Rhodes, Business Manager Lisa Baxter
Council Members: Paul Moon, Judie Greiner, Jeff Korfhage, Joe Germain, Monty Reeves, Bob Schroeder, and Carl Heger
Excused: Katie Sobotta
Absent: Bob Malloy, Jerry Raque
Recording Secretary: Clare Vize

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and opened by Fr. Chris with a prayer.

Lisa asked the opinion of the Council members regarding the OMOS budget. They agreed that it looked OK and the budget was passed.

St. Therese budget is still \$12,761 in the red. Bob S. asked if we could put a percentage on the weekly collection and talk to parishioners about what it would take per person, per year to get past the shortage. Lisa stated that she put \$8,000 in the budget for the card party and a night at the races, but it still doesn't fix the problem. Bob suggested turning the cafeteria back to the company that rents it. Lisa talked to the Archdiocese about the situation since a question had been raised about building a wall to separate the rectory from the church, and the Archdiocese said it had been done in the past and it was a disaster because it couldn't be sold. Plus it would cost \$30-40,000 to split the utilities, and they were not interested in doing that. Bill Zoeller looked at the easement agreement and it says we can walk away from the cafeteria, but to understand that it is irreversible.

Lisa said the contract reads that we can remove all furniture or equipment of value, but the fixtures will remain. The metal freezer and refrigerator would go, but the hood would stay. Bill Zoeller suggested bringing in interested buyers now to look at the items to be sold and be able to test it on site rather than remove it and try to sell it afterwards. Judie G. said an inventory list needs to be made. Lisa suggested that once that happens, we look through it to see if the other two parishes can use the items first, then offer it to other parishes and then to any outside companies.

Carl H. said he had mixed emotions, but the people they have talked to are OK with it. Lisa said the air conditioning unit would also stay.

Bob questioned the pipes on the organ that are visible in St. Therese church – could those be scrapped for money? How would we then fill up the space in that void? Could we hang a tapestry or some other item to hide the gap?

Carl confirmed that selling items in the cafeteria would bring the budget numbers down to a few thousand dollars. He questioned the office expenses that are way down, and Lisa stated that they are divided up into new accounts so it is spread around now under the new system started

01/01/2017. If we remove the cafeteria expenses and add a few thousand to collections the budget is balanced, Bob and Carl approved the budget after those changes.

Carl questioned how will we ask for money now if we're breaking even on the budget? Lisa said to use the angle for fundraising reasons. Bob said we could ask for a percentage more, like 5% more, and asked Lisa to work up the numbers and use that to encourage everyone to give more. Lisa said not to do this until the new fiscal year begins on July 1st.

There will be a town hall meeting on Sunday, July 9th at OMOS after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The installation Mass and reception will be held on November 19th at 10:30 a.m. The Finance Council is expected to be there.

Judie asked how does St. Therese at-large learn about the cafeteria? Fr. Chris said it will be part of the budget talk that is to be discussed at the town hall meeting.

Judie asked if we had received a bequest from the estate of JoAnn Teske? Lisa did not think we had received anything. Judie thought she had left St. Elizabeth about \$10,000.00.

Regarding the bell renovation at St. Elizabeth: St. E wants the bell and the remote: \$10k was put in Restricted Fund Raising and \$10k in Maintenance because the Arch has already said we cannot capitalize the expense. The organ needs leathering too.

Lisa introduced Grant Station and gave ideas on what we're looking into. She encouraged the Council to think outside the box on items that might be covered under these grants. Items such as the bell renovation at St. Elizabeth, the organ repairs at OMOS, and the stained glass at OMOS. She said Clare is working to identify what grant monies could be available to our parishes, but we needed specific ideas on what to pursue.

Regarding the St. Elizabeth budget: Judie and Paul M. did not see anything out of the ordinary in the budget.

Lisa asked if the Council was ready to finalize the Elizabeth budget and everyone approved.

Lisa mentioned that the Kroger Rewards and Amazon Smile programs are progressing. Once we get set up on Amazon Smile we will announce it to all the parishes.

Lisa told the council all 3 parish January and February month end folders with financials, bank statements etc. were on the tables for review.

Roof updates: St. Therese roof rebate is in the bank, the roof is completed and the company (Morley Roofing) was excellent to work with.

OMOS roof is still pending completion. St. Elizabeth's roof is expected to be done this afternoon, and repairs to the ceiling must be done by June 26th. The interior work had been completed earlier in the day.

Lisa stated that KidZone needs to be renamed and asked for ideas from the Council members.

She made the Council aware of a parish policy that was recently invoked as part of a picnic situation; if we are aware by any reputable, verifiable or written source of someone's criminal background, we will not allow that person to work in any capacity handling money from working the picnic to collection counter, etc. No one had any objections at all.

Judie raised a question about the organ/keyboard at St. Elizabeth. There are two items that take up space there. One belongs to Regina, the other is a piano that the church owns. Do we need all that? It clutters up the old band stand platform. Fr. Chris said to ask Regina what to do with it. Paul asked if there was carpet under there.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 7:00 p.m.