

## **Finance Council Minutes** **Wednesday, November 18, 2009**

**Present:** Walter Leachman, Rick Stephan, Fr. Bob Nieberding, Scott King, Ron Wedding, Michael Steinmetz, Gary Morin, Scott Vogt, Wayne Rickert, Jeanne Suchanek, Jeri Isbell

**Not Present:** Jason Ivy, Ben Edelen, Dan Bork, Julian Gorham, Trent Murphy, David Wheatley, Tony Pescatore, Jon Terhune, Steve McCauley

Start Time: 7:35 AM

1. **Prayer** – Prayer for Priests and Religious
2. **Fr. Bob comments** – Bishop Gainer’s thyroid was cancerous and was removed successfully. He is beginning a special diet in preparation for radiation treatments to begin in December.  
Fr. Joe was indicted and pled not guilty at his arraignment. The trial is tentatively to begin in March. The diocesan investigation will be held up, pending result of the trial. In a related note, the Diocese of Covington has received a lawsuit in the matter.  
Fr. Bob has agreed to stay on at MQHR through Easter, as needed.
3. **Approval of October 21, 2009 Minutes** – approved as published.
4. **Finance Council Structure** – Scott - Scott suggested that the committees meet outside the general meeting and try to shorten the discussion/agenda of the general meeting. Each committee should select a spokesperson/chair. Each committee should identify their scope of work and document their direction and strategy, including estimated timelines for getting information together. The Finance Council guidelines have some details
5. **Diocesan Annual Appeal** – Walter – (#420/ \$107,383 / short \$2,106) goal was \$109,489. Deadline is December 31. Walter noted that one more pledge had come in, for \$300.
6. **One in Faith and Mission/Guidance in Giving** – Scott/Michael – Fr. Bob thanked the sub-committee for its presentation to the diocese. He said it was the most positive and professional presentation submitted. He does not know the outcome or progress of the request we made. Scott noted that our request included a graduated payment plan and the start to be in 2011, due to our current capital campaign. Gary said we stressed the need for the leadership situation to be settled prior to beginning the campaign.
7. **School Finance** – Walter – David sent an e-mail to request help toward establishing the school as a Blue Ribbon School. There is a deficit of \$50K collection at the school, much of it in separate fees. A suggestion was made to reduce the number of separate fees and combine them together to make it easier to manage and collect. We will contract again with FAIR.
8. **Bond Update – Progression** – Walter – Meeting tomorrow to review the rates to determine forward locking for the bond.
9. **Festival Finances/ captured learning** – Walter – Draft numbers indicate that net is around \$75K.
10. **Pledge Letters** – Fr. Bob/Walter – A development and an offertory letter were sent out. Pledges from last weekend numbered around 367. Follow-up pledges will be done this weekend. This is down from previous years at the same time.
11. **October Month End Financial Reports** – Walter reviewed the report. October total numbers show positive, but that is due to a bequest that was received. Year to date totals show that we are still missing budget by a significant amount. Offertory reports show that we continue to miss the budgetary amounts of giving by 16%.
12. **Finance Council Goals and Objectives** – Scott – Would like to come up with new ideas to bring in revenue. It was discussed that there was a need to see trending for pledging to compare to the budgetary needs.
13. **New items** – Wayne suggested that there be ad hoc audits to review finances periodically through the year, to determine if receipts and expenses are following documented procedures. This will test the processes in place. Scott suggested that we put a plan in place starting in January. Walter will contact some suggested providers to see what a basic audit would cost.
14. **Next Regular Meeting** – January 20, 2010, Time 7:30 AM.

Meeting adjourned 9:15 AM