

Finance Council Minutes
Stella Maris Parish Finance Council
Tuesday,
May 31, 2016, 2:00 P.M. Baileys Harbor Site

Stella Maris Mission Statement:

Stella Maris Catholic Parish prayerfully unites people in the love of Jesus guided by our patron, Mary.

Stella Maris Vision Statement:

We invite all to journey as disciples. By sharing the Gospel, responding to Jesus' love and the gifts God has given us, we welcome all to grow in faith and in our parish life.

1. Introductions

- Call to order: 2:02 pm
- Check-in (2 minute time limit)
 - Present: Fr. Dave Ruby; June Biemeret, Chair; Richard Dannhausen, Trustee; Sharon Brabson, Trustee, Tom Polacek; Larry Kahlscheuer; Les Kiehnau; Garey Bies; Peg Berezewski, Secretary.
- Approval of the minutes 5/03/2106
 - Minutes were approved. Peg will send to Lori Orthober
- Agenda additions or subtractions
 - None
- Sign 2015 Parish Finance Council Report
 - The report has appropriate board members' signatures.
- Opening prayer
 - Luke 9: 11b-17

2. Comments or questions from non- council members

- None present

3. Current Financial Report & Investment Review

- Richard presented current financial documents

4. Monthly Collection Review

- Memorial Day weekend collection count not complete
 - Collections for May 2016 are \$5,000 under budget for the year
 - Overall collections are still up from last year.

5. Pastor's Report

- None

6. Committee Reports & Project Updates

- Cemetery
 - June reports that operations are going well.
- Stewardship Committee
 - Tom reports that the Service and Sharing Drive kickoff will be on Fathers' Day weekend.
 - The Stewardship Committee has new recruits
 - Three goals for the committee have been identified:
 1. Improve our Service and Sharing Drive—needs volunteers to make 20 calls each, revised calling script, Providing return envelopes
 2. Recruit more ~~talent~~ Stewardship Committee members

3. Align Stewardship goals with the parish goal: Creating Intentional Disciples

- **Buildings and Grounds**

- Project Updates
 - Baileys Harbor parking lot- will begin the improvements to the parking lot within the next few weeks.
 - A ridge will be built along curb edge to prevent flooding in the parking lot.
 - Baileys Harbor Landscaping-trees have been cut down. Looking for reasonably priced large trees and shrubs.
 - Approved new roof at Jacksonport social hall. Bid was approved for \$4,000 by Chewy Co. as low bidder.
 - Exterior painting is going on at various sites.

7. Discussion Items

- **Budget Process**

- Method of preparing the budget is aligned with the mission and vision of Stella Maris parish by implementing the “narrative” method of budgeting. The various committees were given a worksheet to fill in for the year so that the Finance Council could get feedback on their financial needs to fulfill their mission.

- **Money counting process review**

- Put need for couriers and ushers in the bulletin.
- Discussion about holding couriers responsible for performing their duties on a timely basis, i.e., directly after Mass.
- Concern that there is no courier for Jacksonport
- ~~Sister Bay~~ Fish Creek courier did not take pick up collection after the Saturday Mass.
- Need to have list of couriers given to Richard as trustee
- Need a back-up plan in case the courier is a no-show. Richard to discuss with Michelle Piatek

- **Financial system support**

- Peg to purchase Quick Books Pro with enhanced payroll system. FC committee members approved the purchase of the online version which will include the ability to have 3 users.
- A parallel payroll will still be done on Great Plains until the end of the calendar year.
- Peg to work with Jim Slomski to set the appropriate chart of accounts.

- **Major Project Planning discussion** – Discuss Presentation of Long Range Plan to the Parish

- 20-30 Minutes. Tom Polacek ~~start~~ started discussion with Sharon & Richard’s input.
- The major project plan should be aligned itself with the bigger goal and mission of the parish
- We nNeed to improve communication, alignment, and transparency and ~~donor~~ strengthen accountability within the parish leadership/committee framework.
- Involvement makes interest: involvement of parishioners needs to be addressed is what is missing.
- Discussion on various ways to move forward with the ideas we discussed. get more participation from parishioners.

- Leadership Committee “Living our Values” - Sharon - 20 Minutes

- Four identified guiding values
 1. Welcoming and Hospitality – See Appendix A

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2. Breaking the silence
3. Discipleship
4. Joy in Christian living

8. Action Items

- Approve 2016-2017 Parish Budget- the budget was approved for 2016-2017

9. Coming Events

Next Meeting –to be held at Baileys Harbor on Thursday, July 21, 2016 at 4:00 pm

10. Evaluation

A very good meeting with many thoughts shared about the stewardship and leadership of the parish

11. Closing Prayer – All prayer intentions for parish

Meeting adjourned at 4:29 pm

Respectfully submitted by
Peg Berezewski, Secretary

Appendix A

Stella Maris Guiding Value: Welcoming and Hospitality

Hospitality and being welcoming is more than a coffee hour after mass or putting together a funeral meal. The real practice of hospitality and being welcoming makes people feel they belong. It makes them feel special, important, and warmly welcomed into your life. It receives visitors and those you don't know like they are family. It communicates through your words and actions that others are well worth your time and effort.

When this kind of welcome and hospitality is practiced, we would powerfully communicate the love of Christ throughout our parish.

Christ calls for His church to be welcoming. "So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us." 2 Corinthians 5:20a. Jesus uses us to be His welcoming arms to draw others closer to Him.

Sherry Weddell shares some pew statistics in her book, "Forming Intentional Disciples". Only 30% of Americans who were raised Catholic are still practicing (attend mass at least once a month). Another 38% seldom or never attend mass. 32% no longer consider themselves Catholic.

People need to feel comfortable while at church, whether attending mass or a special event or while involved in committee work or volunteering. When they don't feel comfortable they don't attend regularly and when they don't attend regularly they don't feel a sense of belonging and when they don't feel that sense of belonging they may stop coming altogether.

For someone to feel comfortable at Stella Maris, he/she needs to make a connection, build a relationship and feel welcomed. People need to feel this is their church and that they belong. When they feel they belong they also grow in their relationship with Christ.