

St. Catherine of Genoa

Finance Council Minutes – January 29, 2009

1. Financial Reports. Collections have tapered after a strong November. However, we are hopeful that the decline in collections may be coming to an end. December 2008 and January 2009 collections, when compared with the same month from the prior year, were up 2%. By comparison, July 2008 thru October 2008 collections, when compared with the same month from the prior year, were down 9%.

The following statistics are for the fiscal year through December 2008. Total Revenue from Operations is down \$0.3k vs. budget. Sunday Offertory is \$7.6k unfavorable vs. budget, offset by a \$7.4 favorable variance in Other Income (mainly due to a concrete donation and needy collections). Total Expenses exceed budget by \$8.7k, and Net Income Before Cash/Savings Transfer is \$11.0k, \$4.4k short of budget.

Collections for Diocesan Appeal have now exceeded target. All future collections will be refunded back to the Parish and will be earmarked for the Elevator campaign. We currently estimate that \$6.5k remains unfunded to pay for the elevator. This takes into account contributions currently made and estimated future payments. We will continue to monitor this in coming months.

2. Pastoral Council Update. A volunteer church cleaning group is forming. This will free up time for Butch to work on other projects. Michael Cirone is doing public relations work for the Parish. Shales McNutt will provide a quote for the water leakage problem.
3. Capital Expenditures. Council will keep this on the agenda as future ideas emerge. Council acknowledged that the water leakage problem must be addressed despite the current economy. Other future capital expenditures were discussed, including the parking lot, window replacement, kitchen and bathroom repair in the basement, and the floor around the altar.
4. Lenten Dinner. A pro-life theme will be addressed by 6 speakers, one for each Thursday in Lent. Then we will have a soup dinner. Each week a different group will host. On March 26 the Finance Council will host. We will have to bring bread, butter, desserts and drinks. Estimating 25 people.
5. Succession Plan. Finance Council consists of 6 members carrying 3 year terms. 2 members are scheduled to rotate off the Council each year. Nobody new expressed an interest in the Finance Council from the Time & Talent appeal. We have two left over from last year (Wayne Walters and Jim Kuhn). Steve Younker suggested that Father could invite Wayne to a future meeting as a guest. Carol Cleveland will stay on the Finance Council until May.
6. Stewardship. Father approached Diocese about getting a transitional Deacon. We might receive one this summer, and the Deacon and Father might do home visits this summer. Father believes the personal appeal might get more people engaged. Steve thinks we need more social events. These events require less commitment and might draw more people closer to the church. Council discussed the idea of hosting a Bags tournament. Ted suggested the Parish could help the elderly and shut-ins with maintenance on their homes.
7. Next meeting is scheduled for 3-16-09 at 7:00 p.m.