

St. Joseph Parish – Martinsburg
Finance Council Meeting
July 12, 2023

Vicki Duenke, Finance Council Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Fr. Derek Hopper led the opening prayer.

Members in attendance were Fr. Derek Hooper, Vicki Duenke, Kevin Ahrens, Jill Rafferty, Jennifer Hunn, Rhonda Kestler, and Michelle Hombs – Principal,

Not present: Aaron Cope, Pat Arens – Parish Council Rep.

Minutes from the June 21, 2023 Meeting were reviewed and approved.

Old Business

Early Learning Center -Lexa Kobush the new Director was unable to attend but submitted a report for all members.

School – Michelle Hombs principal reported the windows for the school would be installed starting on Monday, July 17th. They were also in the process of stripping the floors in the storage room and basement. She had ordered text books for the coming school year. The school advisory board was meeting tomorrow and they would have their new member to represent the school on the Finance committee by next meeting. They would have more updates on the installation of the security system at next school advisory board meeting. Landscaping would be completed after the installation of windows. Discussed putting sleeves on the doors to the class rooms for security purposes.

Building committee- Kevin Ahrens reported that they have the cabinet and mirror for the bathroom in the Church. Discussed the confessional with putting additional insulation around the doors or playing the organ during the confessions. They were going to discuss with Tom Becker music director and Ruthie organist about taping music and then just playing it.

Merger with the Church of Resurrection – There were concerns on the condition of the building. Father Derek advised the Bishop doesn't want the building to deteriorate.

Pastor's report:

Father Derek report that they would be working hard on the Stewardship plan and school families attending weekend masses.

Father Derek would be meeting with the Stewardship leader tomorrow and we are in the Cohort 3. Deacon Ron Deimeke was calling on members for the council.

Discussed the Tithe 10% stewardship calculator. The Finance Council members had concerns on whether the parish would be able to come up with additional funds to pay the tithe. The young working parents in the rural areas doesn't have the same wage base as in Columbia and Jefferson City.

Discussed having children more involved in the liturgical roles one weekend a month for Saturday and Sunday masses. Also discussed the young children that are 3 to 6 years old having them come up front to receive the blessing before leaving during the homily for Children's Liturgy.

New Business:

Next meeting was is scheduled for August 9th at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned. Father Derek closed with prayer.