Finance Council

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Protivin, IA

Father Nick opened the regular Finance Meeting for Our Lady of Mount Carmel with prayer at 6:30. Members present included: Fr. Nick, Joe Scally, Dianne Blazek, Steve Lynch, Tom Brincks, Mark Mueterthies, Joyce Mueterthies and Renae Huinker joined the meeting at 6:45. Sinclair Ender was unable to attend.

Dianne chaired the meeting and the minutes from the February meeting were approved with no corrections. The members reviewed the financial statements and discussed how the income and donations are recorded and acknowledged. Father will talk to the staff about sending letters for donations made to other churches in our cluster. The financial council would like information on year-to-date, as well as comparing the present year to the past year when possible. Renae joined the meeting and chaired the rest of the meeting. The council also discussed a way to acknowledge Father Bodensteiner’s donation to our parish. After some discussion, the council agreed to find a way to mount the four stain-glass windows from the old church to recognize Father Pete’s gift in the entrance of the Gold Room or somewhere in the church. Joyce will contact Sinclair and Emily about meeting with them to see about removing the windows from the rectory. The council also discussed having the statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel repainted by the highway.

Old Business: The sanctuary carpet installation was delayed because of a funeral. We are now scheduled for June. Tom presented a bid by Frontier Mudjacking LLC to raise and support the cement by the elevator addition for $1450.57. This has been an insurance issue and they guarantee their work for three years. It was approved by consensus to go ahead with this bid. Tom also presented a bid by Roger Dreckman to replace the sidewalk and stairs south of the rectory for $2,450.00. After a discussion, this bid was also approved by consensus. The rectory windows were tabled until Sinclair and Emily identify which windows are issues. Tom reported that Adam Geerts came to look at the pipes in the basement that are damaging the ceiling tiles. Adam suggested that we shut off the valves because they are only used when we use the system to heat and cool the air at the same time, which is something we never do. This concept was in vogue at the time the system was installed, but is an inefficient way to condition the air. We will wait to repaint the tiles until we see if this solves the problem. After a brief discussion, the financial council decided to table having a second board to show hymn numbers on the other side of the altar because the new board is higher than the old one and it should be able to be seen throughout the church.

New Business: The Parish Society has decided to take charge of the Dad’s Waffle Breakfast on June 23rd from 9:00 to 12:30 to support the Irish Fest weekend. The Parish Society will ask for volunteers and donations. The council also discussed allowing the Irish Fest committee to use the church parking lot. Father will check with the insurance to see if we would be liable for anyone parking at the church and crossing the highway. Other issues discussed included that Tom and Lauren have tried to fix the leaking church roof, but they have not been successful yet. They will continue to work on it or contact the roof company. Also the sinkhole by the Father Moran Center, which opened up when the septic tank rusted out, has been fixed and the hole filled in. Another issue at the Father Moran Center is that the hot water has a smell so they don’t use it. Tom said one thing we could do is shut off the gas and drain the water. Tom will have a plumber look at this for an opinion. The council also discussed the amount our parish pays for the utilities for the rectory. After a brief discussion, the members decided that this minimal amount is what we would need to pay if the rectory sat empty. We discussed parish members not knowing our new cluster bookkeeper. Joyce will contact Emily to see if she can get a picture of Terra so it can be added to the website. Finally, Father Nick said that we would have confirmation at Our Lady of Mount Carmel on Saturday, June 8th at 5:00 with our new Arch-bishop Jackals. Father would like some things cleaned up before the confirmation. The members will meet some night during the week of June 1st to take care of any issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25. The next meeting date will be announced after the other meetings are set.

 Submitted by: Joyce