

Holy Redeemer Parish

Finance Council Minutes

May 18, 2022, Parish Hall (4:00 PM)

Attendance:

Father Paul Nwaeze, Father Jonathon Kelly, Art Lamarche, Michael Olsen, Patrick Groulx, Anita Henson, Paul Jolicoeur, Mary-Lou Hakansson (by speaker phone) (Accountant) and Katia Antillon (Parish Council).

Review of minutes from April 27, 2022 meeting:

Motion to accept minutes by Anita, seconded by Michael. Minutes approved.

Financial Statement for period ending April 30, 2022:

Taxable income approx. \$21,000 more than 2021 and \$25,000 less than 2019 (non covid yr.).

Motion to accept Financial Statement by Pat. Seconded by Anita. Motion carried.

Previous Business:

Ukraine Refugee Status.

Finance Committee - the Refugee Committee has received two requests to assist Ukrainian people and we hope they can both be voted on this week.

1) As you may be aware, Churches cannot sponsor Ukrainian families to come to Canada permanently as they will be returning home sometime after the war is over. A member of our Parish is friends with Father Roman Rytsar - an Orthodox Catholic Priest who lives in Ottawa with his wife and children. He will be bringing his parents-in-law and brother-in-law to Canada. Their visas have already been approved and they will be coming to Canada very soon - possibly this weekend. (Visas are good for a maximum of three years). He does not have the money to support these family members and is looking for a church to help out. Fr. Roman's brother-in-law is autistic and his parents-

in-law are in their 60's and don't speak English so it is unlikely that they will be able to work while they are here. He estimates that it will cost \$900.00 a month to support these 3 family members. The Refugee Committee would like to propose that Holy Redeemer Parish take on the sponsorship for these people for a maximum of 3 years. The family may go back to Ukraine earlier. We propose that for \$900.00 be provided to Father Roman every month, for a maximum of 36 months, or whenever this family returns to Ukraine. This would be funded from the Holy Redeemer Deposit fund at the Diocese.

After much discussion and fact checking this proposal was not voted on and is now closed. This request was not meant to be forwarded to our parish finance council but was only a personal request from Father Roman to a friend who happens to be one of our parishioner's. Father Paul has spoken to Father Roman to confirm. Father Roman is welcome to preach at our parish and request assistance from the parishioners. Father Roman is also applying to the Ontario Government for refugee assistance.

2) We have been in contact with someone living in Poland who is a member of the Parish of Our Lady, Queen of Families. This Church has been helping the sick, poor and disadvantaged for many years and are currently supporting 260 people in need. Since the war in Ukraine started, many Ukrainian people have come to this church for help, mostly mothers with children and elderly women. Men are required to stay behind and fight to defend their country. They are currently taking care of about 200 refugees and more are arriving. These people are all being housed within their community but the people who have opened up their homes don't have the financial resources to support them. This Parish is in desperate need of financial assistance to help purchase food, clothes, medicine, school supplies so the children can attend school and other basic necessities. There are many large aid organizations working to collect money but it takes time for decisions to be made and money to be disbursed. But they need help now. The Refugee Committee suggests having a special collection for this Parish in the next few weeks. All proceeds from this collection would go to this church through Caritas, which is a respected charitable organization.

This request was discussed and accepted. A second collection will be provided on a Sunday designated by Father Paul. Monies collected will be forwarded to Caritas. No additional money from our savings will be added to that collection. Motioned by Anita and seconded by Michael. Motion passed.

New Business:

Father Paul update

A new position has been created, Communications Co-ordinator. The position is part time; up to 10 hrs/wk at \$26/hr. The tentative start is June 1. This position was not included in the original budget; the money will have to come from other areas of the budget.

Open house/Volunteer day/Ministry fair hopefully to be planned for this fall.

Father Paul thanked Art for all the hard work and time he has put in organizing the outdoor cleanup of the parish grounds.

Father Jonathon update - nothing to report.

Parish Council update - nothing to report.

The 2022 AGM is set for Wednesday, June 15, 2022. Meeting will be livestreamed. Reception in hall to follow.

Next Finance Council meeting; no date set.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Anita, seconded by Mike. Motion passed.



