

St. Wilfrid Parish ad hoc Council Meeting

April 28, 2022

Present: Fr. Kevin Doyle, Gay Swenson, Kent Swenson, Mike Rankin, Jim VanDenHemel, John Ames, Liz Swenson, Cindy Larson, Doug Swenson, Janet Voorhees, Pat Carsrud, Paula Linke, Jennifer Hansen, Drew Hansen, Gay Lynne Ames.

Meeting opened with prayer at 7:10

Fr. Kevin opened the meeting with comments regarding the *Christendom to the Apostolic Mission*, referring to the book that was promoted by the Diocese of Sioux Falls. Fr. Kevin asked the following mission questions, "Why are we building the church? Are we living for the building or are we living for the church? Where are we going, and what direction are we going?"

Fr. Kevin stated he had recent good news that after Chad Eagle and others looked at the church roof on Thursday, April 27, 2022), the roof has some time left; perhaps 10-15 years remaining. We do have time before replacing the roof. But Fr. Kevin did point out that the roof is not in good condition. A 45-year roof having only 10-15 life means that the roof is in poor condition needing to be replaced sooner than later. With an estimate given by Jason Mathiesen at the last meeting, in 10-15 years we will have to raise approximately \$400,000 to replace the roof. (This means setting aside \$30,000 a year to just the roof project.) Fr. Kevin proposed the financials to reflect the reality of the repairs needed so future priests will know exactly what is going on regarding the condition of the church building and projects that are being planned now.

John Ames gave a summary of what Chad Eagle and the others found after examining the church:

Chad stated that there was one loose shingle, one section of the grid. The shingles are very flexible yet, and a few shingles show some hail dents. There are a few places where the flashing are bent up. In regards to the tuck pointing, there was evidence of a lot brick work flaking.

Chad had pointed out that the tuck pointing and fascia boards needed attention.

Chad was going to get us information regarding tuck pointing and how to go about getting bids correctly.

Chad pointed out the window frames behind the flexi glass the wood is starting to rot. The wood is at the point where it needs to be removed, scraped, brushed, and needs reinforcement of the wood.

The major thing is the tuck pointing and drainage on the northside needs to be addressed. Chad did say that he would recommend putting a concrete apron outside the building to get the water away. Chad has a drill big enough to the drain on the bricks on the southeast side.

Chad also had mentioned the concrete at the handicapped, said it was 9 percent, by code you can only have 2 percent. Having a flat surface at the door is necessary for code.

Parishioners inquired if there was any insurance left on the roof. Fr. Kevin stated that we would have to check with Catholic Mutual on that matter.

The question was asked of what we can do to save up money for the roof down the road. Fr. Kevin suggested that we have a lock box Fund to start saving up for the project.

Fr. Kevin proposed to do the project in phases. Budgeting each of the projects. He also suggested of putting the money in an investing fund rather than a savings account.

It was proposed that the next project should be the tuck pointing, sealing the cracks, the windows and the fascia board. It was suggested to get bids for the tuck pointing. It was noted that the last bid we got from a company was \$43,000 (Heinemann Restoration Inc.), which was a couple years ago. Maybe getting a bid for all of the specific project.

Other projects mentions was the wiring for heat tape on the roof, and the entrance on the basement boiler room needs to torn off.

Dormers appear to be in good shape, but the vents may need to be looked at. Foam looks good.

Stain glass windows – the wood holding the windows is getting bad.

It was suggested that we should budget for carpeting in the nave/sanctuary as the carpeting is buckling up. The carpet was installed in 1995 and is showing its age. The concrete, more than likely, cracked when the basement was redone causing the carpet to wave and is a tripping hazard.

Handicap doors need repaired.

Fr. Kevin reiterated the need to ask ourselves are we in *Christendom or Apostolic Mission* in regards to the church building. Is the building too big for the reality of our parish? Are we reaching out? Are we accomplishing the Apostolic Mission that Bishop Donald DeGrood spoke of at the 2021 Convention? Fr. Kevin mention that Bishop O’Gorman was envisioning Woonsocket to be a Catholic center when the church was first in 1920. Is that vision practical for the 21st Century for St. Wilfrid’s Parish? (There were no comments or answers to these questions.)

Fundraisers were suggested.

We do have some funds available (about \$200,000).

Consensus to get three estimates for windows and tuck pointing.

Fr. Kevin will write to the bishop regarding the repairs. (Anything over \$10,000 needs permission from the diocese.) We will need to contact the diocese and get permission to go forward. We still need to start with fundraising while we wait for the diocese to permit us to begin the projects.

Some of the cement work and the handicap entrance can be done now. Knights of Columbus will be starting to work on the exterior doors after graduation.

Will get estimates on the epoxy work for the basement floor from Glacier Lakes in Watertown and Design Crete in Mitchell. This will complete the basement project started in 2014.

Fr. Kevin stated that Steve Keeler (custodian) can start working on the outside windows on the lower level as well as other needed minor repairs. With his background as a mechanical engineer he is well qualified various repairs that may present themselves.

Question brought up in communicating the ongoings of the parish. Fr. Kevin reminded the group we have bulletin, our web page as well as after Mass announcements of what is happening weekly in the parish. Fr. Kevin suggested maybe meeting once a month for a half hour as a parish council for updates. .

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gay Lynne Ames