

THESE MINUTES are also relevant to the Finance Committee, from our joint meeting, in April, with Advisory. April 21.

**Members present:**

Richard Bollman, Karen Brandstetter, Tony Dardy, Peg Dillon, Kathleen Pfahl, Mary Schneider, Bill Sedgwick, Mark Stockman, Todd Uterstaedt, Debbie Weber.

Excused: Dave Kitchings

**Also present from the Finance Committee:** Kevin Berlon, Barbara Beimesch, Joan Couden, and Tom Schick.

Opening Prayer: Peg Dillon.

Business: How can we better manage financial communication to the parish to reflect both stewardship and provide proper and timely information to parishioners?

Richard and Karen presented a review of the third quarter financial summary. It included comparisons to the two previous years showing a decrease in overall income last year and additional decrease this year to date. They explained the charts and answered our questions.

We were asked for suggestions on addressing the parish on how the budget relates to them.

- Reminders that this is a parish of choice and what that choice means to us. i.e. a welcoming atmosphere for parishioners as we are and where we are; respectful and involving liturgies, good homilies, support and encouragement to outreach.
- Take a lesson from the NPR fund drives explaining how finances are used and how the expenses compare to other things we pay for.
- Establish an understanding that support of parish is a regular personal budget item (not a maybe or sometimes item)
- Convincing younger members of the need to contribute according to their means.
- Show connection to our need to reach out beyond ourselves.
- Suggested changes in wording of talking points for stewardship at Bellarmine.
  - i.e. emphasis on being *nourished*,
  - respected* in our questions and *hungers*,
  - servicing* needs of the city and neighborhoods and
  - parishioners* rather than members.

Richard reported on the meeting with parishioners and some Xavier University staff **regarding Campus Master Plan** and how it affects Bellarmine Parish. Phil Jones has agreed to supply himself as a “parish voice” on the “way finding” committee

David Kitchings will provide prayer and take minutes at May meeting.