

St. Thomas Aquinas Pastoral Council Minutes
September 11, 2018

Present:

Francis Todey, Rose Martin, , Justin Chilson, John Moss, Amber Klein, Ronnie Lindeman, Joan Grabenstetter (Ames Ecumenical Housing), Scott Blum and Warren Franke (Buildings & Grounds Committee)

Opening prayer by Francis Todey

Reflections shared on the St. Thomas Mission Statement

Joan G. reported on the Ames Ecumenical Housing Commission as the St Thomas representative, entering her 3rd year in that capacity. The Keystone and Stonehaven apartments make up the low-income housing that the Ecumenical commission governs. The Commission has hired a new firm to manage the buildings. They hope the firm will be able to improve management processes and reduce the vacancy rate in the buildings. Funds from the St. Thomas Social Justice grants are helpful in covering expenses that HUD does not cover, such as library needs, vegetable gardens, social activities and small extras.

Warren F. and Scott B. reported on the clerestory window replacement project. They shared the time line on how discussion on this project has progressed from summer of 2017. The Building & Grounds Committee & Finance Council recommended to accept the low quote of the 2 submitted. This quote was from Reflections and Henkel Construction. This is the second set of quotes received, and there is a higher level of confidence that the bids are accurate and consider all the project challenges. Scott does anticipate up to a 3% increase in material cost (aluminum) at the first of the year, before the project could actually begin. Scaffolding will be a large expected cost, because the power lines on the west side of the building limit access with other types of equipment. Clarification on the term “commissioning” was given- -”Envelope Commissioning” refers to inspecting the installation and checking for good seals around all the openings/windows in the project to assure the work was properly completed. This work is completed by an independent company, and reduces the chance of later problems. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$311,190, including contingency. The plan is to get final approval for the project this fall, raise funds this winter and spring, and start actual work next spring (2019). The work could last up to three months, so late spring and summer construction is preferred; when the student foot traffic around the property is lower. The Finance Council feels confident that funds will be available from donations, in addition to the \$100K gift in hand. If necessary \$100K could be taken from the Capitol Improvement fund, and, if needed, a loan from the archdiocese could be obtained. The start of the project was Approved by consensus of the Pastoral Council.

A short discussion of the suggested “Emergency Schedule” for weekend masses was held. All agreed that acceptance was necessary given the circumstances.

The financial report was given by John Moss with printouts to illustrate.

*Respectfully recorded and submitted,
Ronnie Lindeman*