

July 20, 2016

Capital Improvements Committee Meeting

Attendees: Margaret Klesch, Audry Wilga, Joseph Pelis, Kevin Jekanowski, Ed Kelley, Jim Maksimoski, Helen Baj. Pauline Kokoski, Kathy Zieja, Carol Waskiewicz, Mariana Hynninen, Kathy Banas, Ed Smola, Peter and Laura Meyer

Peter began the meeting speaking about the mold issue in the basement underneath Father's living quarters. He spoke about how the gutters were installed so that the runoff of water will not leak down into the basement. Ed Kelly was concerned about the cost and how things will be paid. Peter mentioned that there is money in the bank to pay for the work. The Diocese will give MHR the name of the contractor to do the mold work but MHR will pay for it.

Ed Smola spoke about the signage project and the different options we have available. MHR still has some items from St. John's Church that could be incorporated into the sign (bell) and MHR has some items as well, such as the Cross which used to be on top of the cupola. Ed mentioned that the Bishop's letter asking MHR consider putting a sign or shrine recognizable from Route 9. We discussed the Town of Hadley By-Laws which states that the sign cannot exceed 64 square feet in total. We spoke about the location of the sign and possibly placing lighting in the sign. Ed passed out some pictures of other church signs that he found pleasing.

Joe Pelis mentioned a Mother Mary Memorial and he passed out a picture of one he saw.

Next on the agenda was the location of the bathroom in the church. The current location is difficult to get into and is not handicap accessible. Jim Maksimoski mentioned leaving the bathroom there but expanding it. He mentioned to move it meant a lot of costs, figuring the drainage and design. More research needs to be done to determine the most cost effective placement of the bathroom.

Peter did mention that the orange rug is on the list of items to contend with but that right now there are more pressing issues. In addition, certain items would have to be addressed to avoid having to pull up the rug once it is installed.

The sound system was discussed. Peter stated that the existing sound system is illegal and that the sound technique interferes with the police/ emergency system. He mentioned that a wireless type of equipment is available for minimal cost and will be clearer. Current microphone is not effective.

Peter mentioned that the alter may need to be shortened because it conflicts with the placement of the casket during funerals. Currently, people who want to receive Communion during funerals have a difficult time. It is very tight in that area and there is no need for such a large alter area.

We discussed putting vinyl siding on the garage. Peter said he can get someone to look at it.

Peter recommended Eversource come and do an energy audit and possibly replace outdated light bulbs.

It was also mention that Father Shaun would like to have the MHR Rectory windows replaced because of the cold air coming in.

It was mentioned that some of the kneelers have to be replaced and that some of the pews are loose. When parishioners put weight on the pew to get up, the pew falls back on them.

Peter mentioned that there is a possibility of moving the choir to another area of the church. However, it is important to look at the cost effectiveness of doing so.

Ed Smola stated that the front entrance is really meant for handicapped parishioners. He said that we need to install a ramp and remove part of the curb to do this. This would also help during funerals, making it easier to move the casket into the church.

Peter mentioned that Acres used to be able to remotely access the ventilation system but can no longer do this. He wants to find out what we can do to remedy this so that we can possibly reduce expenses.

We do have a sprinkler system that is not being used due to the road construction.

Kevin Jekanowski spoke about the huge ice cycles on the parish hall.

Peter said he needs to have someone try to find the tiles to match the tiles that have been uplifted from the floor in the parish hall.

Peter spoke about the Jesus statue placed at the Most Holy Redeemer Cemetery. The old statue was unsafe. Many of the attendees did not know about the statue and asked why. Peter stated that he will be getting up in front of the congregation to discuss the goings on in the church.

Ed Smola mentioned having some of the attendees who are interested in designing the signage to go into the MHR garage and see what is in there.

Peter mentioned that there are soft spots on the roof and that it is at least 20 years old. It will need to be replaced.

Bulletin- Trying to get information into the bulletin, web page and Facebook. We spoke about possibly sending letters to parishioners updating them on changes/ upgrades/needs of the Capital Improvements Committee.

There is a need to invite everyone back. Set up email for planning committee.