Financial Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Anaconda Catholic Community

August 11, 2026, at 5 pm at Holy Family Church

Members Present: Cy Schaefer, Bob Gallagher, Don Crum, Maureen Watt, Fr. Joe Fleming

Fr. Joe opened the meeting with prayer.

Food Bank: Terry Vaughn is moving forward with enlisting architects and engineers to come up with detail plans for moving forward and establishing what the cost of the project will end up being.

Mrs. Sugrue Bequest: Edward Jones has had our completed claim forms for over a month now and has not been able to fish processing them or given any status updates on the processing of the bequest. They have 9 other death benefits to process and said they are very busy. An endowment at the Foundation for the Diocese of Helena has been set up with Madalen's name and the entire amount of her bequest will be deposited into that account. ACC will then receive quarterly payments of approximately 4.5% on this deposit in perpetuity. Fr. Joe expressed concerns at Edward Jone's ability to provide timely services and that we may need to revisit our involvement with them and need to find another investment management firm for our resources that can provide more timely responses. D.A. Davison, LPI Financial and Ashton Thomas as well as the local Edward Jones in Anaconda were mentioned as potential candidates. If all else fails, getting some legal help may be necessary to speed things along.

Review of Investments/Financial Summary Ending 6/30/2026: Deanna provided and reviewed the summary of cash and investment accounts. It was suggested that a portion of money in the cash accounts be moved to higher-interest, liquid accounts. Don Crum will provide a list of investment firms that are FDIC insured and where funds can be readily withdrawn. Fr. Joe will ask a representative from the Foundation for the Diocese of Helena to speak to the council about investing funds in a PIF (Parish Investment Fund) account. Deanna reported that $166,000 of the $166,669.94 in Edward Jones account was invested in a 6 CD at 4% APY and the remaining dollars moved to the Edward Jone Money Market Account with an APY of 3.5%.

Status of Holy Family Pews: Fr. Joe reported we are still waiting for the final bids which are supposed to be ready by the middle of August.

Status of St. Peter Mural: One mural was completed and installed. Fr. Joe has asked for clarification on exactly who each of the characters in the Mural are so we can let people know.

Financial Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Music & Youth Minister Job Applicants Update: Fr. Joe visited with one potential candidate, but so far we have no official candidates.

Handicap Access Projects: Automatic Door Openers at Holy Family, Ramp, Door Opener, and Emergency Lights at St. Peter's: Emergency exit lights have been installed at St. Peter and work is in progress to do the same at Holy Family. Fr. Joe is working with the vendor to get one automatic door opener installed at Holy Family and to discuss options for St. Peter's. After watching someone struggle getting into and out of St. Peter with her walker this past Sunday, Fr. Joe will continue to pursue a ramp option for that church. It was reported that the ramps can get very slippery when it gets icy so special precautions will need to be taken to minimize the risk of icing.

The noise Bob Galagher reported was due to a loose microphone cable that Fr. Dillon discovered and fixed at the end of Mass.

New 86" and 55" OLED TVs have been purchased. The larger TV will be connected to a remote camera in the worship area to be used to broadcast Mass in the Hunthausen Center for large funeral gatherings, Christmas, and Easter. The smaller TV will be used for OCIA, online meetings, training, bible study groups, and for viewing programs of interest.

FDOH (Foundation for the Diocese of Helena) Grant for $2,450 was awarded to ACC for youth evangelization.

Basketball Court Planning: The Pastoral Council decided on where to locate the new basketball hoops and will work with the Job Corps to get them installed.

Evangelization Billboard: We have started looking into vendors to provide a new sign for the Holy Family entrance. We have some initial designs incorporating our new logo and a Daktronics electronic sign board that would allow for changing messages. Pricing estimates are estimated to be over $50k depending on the final design and features. The Pastoral and Finance councils are both in favor of getting a new sign for our property. Fr. Joe sent out an email with a copy of one example of a potential new sign. Fr. Joe ran it by the Bishop and he liked it.

Financial Transparency: The council wants to have complete transparency as was recommended by the Bishop at his recent combined councils meeting in Butte. His message was to share everything including all the money that we have in reserve. The Bishop's experience was that it didn't dissuade people from donating and if anything helped to increase their generosity. The council will work with Deanna to come up with some the reporting formats that we eventually want to use.

Financial Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Project Recommendations from Pastoral Council: The Pastoral Council has an extensive list of potential projects that could be pursued and will be working to prioritize the list and make recommendations in the future. The list is available in the Pastoral Council Minutes. The Finance council came up with some additional ideas: Coffee hours, Rolls/Donuts once/month, Lenten Mass with Soup & Bread

Logo Items: The Pastoral Council recommended we pursue creating some small items with our new logo, name, address and phone number on them to start giving out to parishioners and guests. The Finance Council supported this effort and for Joe will work with getting an initial order for assorted items.

Other Topics:

The meeting concluded at 5:50 pm.

Next meeting: September 8, 2026, at 5 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Fr. Joe Fleming