

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES  
BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Al Marifke called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**ATTENDANCE:** Jerry Beine, Dennis Lorentz, Al Marifke, Ken Marshman, Mary Piontkowski, Mark Schimenz, Tom Schroeder, Mark Van Rixel

**GUEST:** Deb Steppe

**MINUTES:** The July minutes were approved as written by Mark Schimenz and Mark Van Rixel

**FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT:** The Finance Council's 8/19/2025 focused on review of 2024-2025 fiscal year end. The 8/19 Finance Council minutes and B&G Improvement Fund activity reports for June, July, and August were shared with the B&G distribution. They did approve the grading and seeding proposal of the labyrinth area for \$4605 as presented by SMC Enterprise.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**ICE MAKER:** The new ice maker has been installed at a price of \$2700.

**DOOR REPLACEMENTS:** The committee agreed to replace the wooden basement door. We will present Finance Council with the 3 quotes and and the B&G Committee's recommendation of LaForce. The door to Ken's office/boiler room is a metal door and frame and is structurally relevant. Its replacement will require a mason to repair the cracked mortar and install a metal lintel. Ken will seek out companies that do this type of work and proceed from there.

**WEED CONTROL:** We are having an issue with creeping charlie throughout the property (excluding the Community Gardens.) Weedman is the only company willing to do only one application of weed control. They quoted \$1519 for the site. Before we give approval, Ken will have them send us an MSDS sheet which will define the chemicals used. If Tom & Dennis agree they are effective on this problem, we will give Weedman the go ahead. We will revisit this in the spring and if indicated, we will do a second application.

**SOUTH PARKING LOT & EAST DRIVE:** The east drive needs repaving. There is a question just how much the driveway is used, and is a third access really required by the City of Milwaukee. Mary will check into the mandates of the city. We could consider watching the camera videos to see how many people use it at each Mass and for other weekday activities. Until we have this information, we will table the parking lot & driveway issue.

**STEEL BEAMS CORROSION ISSUE:** Ken has not found a contractor he feels will properly address the rusting problems we are having. Deb will have Patricia inquire through BAAM (the Archdiocese Business Administrators Meeting) to see if other parishes have dealt with the same issue.

**RAILING AROUND THE COOLING TOWER:** Badger Railing is the only company that provides industrial railings. The cost to properly secure the area came to \$3130. Jerry will bring this quote to Finance Council for approval.

**KEN'S REPORT:**

- There is a dying shrub at the south entrance of the building. We will have SMC Landscaping remove it when they are here working on the labyrinth area.
- The front entrance remains an issue because of the heat and glare that comes in from the windows. We would like to reconfigure that area, perhaps using less glass. We should get an architect to give us input and recommendations. Deb will have Patricia put this request out to BAAM members. Deb

will also bring up to other parishes in her ecumenical group if they have an architect as a parishioner whom we might contact. In the meantime, we will look into the cost of installing a sunscreen on the windows.

- We need to replace Ron as a grass cutter. Patricia is writing up a blurb for the bulletin soliciting help.
- We need to replace the hydraulic pump and valves in the elevator because they are leaking oil. We had an informational bid last year from Express Elevator for \$54,000. Ken will now ask for an updated quote.

**ROUNDTABLE:**

- Deb apologized for not informing the Building & Grounds Committee concerning the office renovation. Apology accepted.
- Jerry brought up about the snow plowing contract. Patricia is getting more quotes. Currently, we are paying a lump sum for the season. Could it be structured per snowfall with a cap limit? Deb will talk further with Patricia.
- Dennis asked about putting a railing at the front entrance to the altar for safety reasons. There is a question whether this is possible based on how the steps were constructed. Mary will look at the drawings and see what is feasible.

**NEXT MEETING:** October 14, 2025 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Tom Schroeder