

## **Building and Grounds Report October 2021**

Committee Members:

Paul Aroune   Mike Sullivan   Jim Plukas   Rob Buckla   Mike Fenn   Sarino Tropeano  
Jim Pluka   Brother Joe   Grant Scott   Dave VanOverwall (NEW MEMBER)   Otto  
Rothermel (NEW MEMBER)

The committee has conferenced three times since the last board meeting. The committee continues to focus on the list of items that was set during the April 2018 committee overnight, current needs of the facilities, as well as, how does the committee fit into the future planning for The Mountain.

### **1. Chapel Entrance Update:**

Process continues to move forward with Grant Scott preparing concepts based on information from last meeting up at The Mountain.

### **2. Solar Panel Array/Green Energy Initiative:**

There have been many meetings between Solar Liberty, the B & G Committee and Mountain Core Community. The engineer and electrician have done site visits. We are in the process of collecting the back-up amperage that we will use to decide on battery back up for outages. The placement of the solar array has been set and flagged out on the hillside. Father Dan, Brother Joe, Mike Fenn and Paul Aroune spent a morning setting up and flagging the site. Br Joe has set up a contractor to come in early November to level out that area and build a berm. Attached is the latest timeline and placement survey. Weather permitting the solar array could be set up by Mid-December and the switched “flipped” to green energy by February 2022.

### **3. St. Joe’s Entrance**

Grant Scott spent a couple of days on the Mountain at the during March and looked at concepts for a roof to cover the porch on St Joe’s . The committee continues to discuss this, as well as, other concepts to bring a covered porch to St. Joe’s to protect the newly installed entrance door from the elements and to provide a shaded area for those staying in the hermitage to enjoy while the Southern Sun beats down on the cabin.

### **4. Steps to Chapel from Mountain Road**

The committee discussed the aging and rotting oof the steps and concern that they may not hold up. Paul spent a day down with Br. Joe looking at this project and it appears that just the top landscape timbers in certain areas have rotted enough for replacement. We will be doing this job on October 28 & 29.

## 5. Sky Lighting in the Shed

This project is being placed on hold until the Spring or Summer of 2022. The sheets also have holes in them through aging. 6 panels will be replaced over the May 14<sup>th</sup> weekend.

## 6. Chapel Parking Lot Design

For those who were at the last meeting you noticed that the Chapel parking lot was expanded and graded. There was also a beautiful new sign created and designed by Fr. Dan and Br. Joe. More discussion has been around the design and flow of the lot, as well as, the entrance design. A concept of a peninsula at the opening to create flow and welcoming space into the chapel lot is being discussed. Grant will continue to work through designs with the committee.

## 7. High Speed Internet Expansion to ALL Buildings in Main Core area of the Mountain:

WE NOW HAVE HIGH SPEED HARD LINED INTERNET ON THE MOUNTAIN! We have speeds of 200 mbps (megabytes per second) coming in and going out. This is equivalent to any high-speed service you would receive from Verizon, Spectrum, etc. With this high speed internet now on The Mountain the committee is wanting to move forward with the project of expanding where the high speed internet can be received. Currently, it's just in the House of Peace.

The committee has been working and consulting with Michael Brooks from Denali Solutions to build a system that would push the high speed wi-fi to the Chapel, Other House, and La Paz. This project falls right in line with the developing social media presence and service we are increasing and providing our Mountain Family and Friends.

Attached are two documents that shows the cost of this project. The Denali Solutions quote is the labor involved in setting up the systems and placing them on the buildings. This cost is with volunteers being on the Mountain during installation. The second quote is the Connection's quote that shows the cost of the actual devices that we will be using. The third attachment is how the system will be "pushed" to the other buildings. COVID-19 has created a back up as to when the devices will be available. We believe they will be available in February or March of 2022.

The total quote equals **\$15,448.06.** With this size expenditure the committee believes it should be put to a vote at the next board meeting. So, please look it over and be prepared to ask questions and vote at the October 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Paul Aroune