**ST. LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL / FINANCE COUNCIL**

**APRIL 23, 2024 (APPROVED MAY 28, 2024)**

STAFF/COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES AT LARGE MEMBERS

Pastor – Rev. Bill Burks (excused) George Morse (excused)

Director Youth Ministry Josh Riley (excused)

& Faith Formation – Mike Raymer (excused) Sarah Burke (excused)

Angela Taylor

Chairperson – Matt Rasche Danielle Wiegandt

Vice Chair – Aimee Burton (excused) Amy Wilson

Abby Nauert (excused)

Finance Council – Emily Rickert (excused) Beth Rich

Worship – Karen Kuenzig

Planning & Maintenance – Matt Rasche Alternates:

Stewardship – Deacon David Maxwell Linda Morris (excused)

Formation – Vicki Neuner Justin Endler

Personnel Committee – Gena Rasche

NDA – Dee Dee Nauert (excused)

Booster Club – Joe Rickert

Matt Rasche opened the meeting with a prayer. March meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Vicki Neuner, second by Beth Rich.

Deacon David reported he has spoken to Fr. Bill, who advised he will be gone for at least another 5 weeks. Fr. Bill is receiving cards and well wishes. Parish has priests scheduled for Masses until June 1.

David and Matt advised that Finance Council cannot meet without pastor present. Parish Council can meet but cannot make any parish decisions without pastor present.

Discussion followed regarding Council issues and questions. There is concern that no one from Archdiocese is addressing St. Lawrence parish issues, due to absent Pastor. Matt advised he will reach out to Archdiocese with concerns for Parish.

Matt advised we need replacements for Parish Council members whose terms are expiring in June. After discussion, there were several parishioners suggested, who Council members thought could serve well on Parish Council. These nominated parishioners will be contacted to see if they would be willing to serve. Suggestion also made to include recently joined parishioners and new NDA parents. Also discussed when new parishioners are signed up, they be given suggestions of ministries they can be involved in. David Maxwell said he would discuss ministries with RCIA group at their next meeting on Thursday.

Discussion followed regarding need for orientation for new, as well as current Council members, to explain the role of Parish Council, along with a copy of the PC Constitution.

**YOUTH MINISTRY –** Mike Raymer sent report via email prior to meeting. Highlights of report include:

Spring Break Mission Trip April 3-6, to Auxier KY, with Hand-to-Hand Ministries. Built a handicap ramp for a family. Guatemala Mission Trip scheduled for June 28-July 7, with 12 representing St. Lawrence. Planning a Mother’s Day Pancake Breakfast after 8:00 am Mass and are selling hanging flower baskets. Planning a welcome evening for 5th graders, with activities, bible study, and tours of youth space. Planning trip to Holiday World, in summer, for youth who service the Parish.

**FAITH FORMATION –** Mike reported 8th graders received sacrament of Confirmation March 6th. First Communion for 2nd graders was April 14, with overflowing church. Will join Incarnation Parish for Vacation Bible School in June. The ***Story*** bible study groups went well. Michelle Hauprich is continuing bible study on Wednesdays. The Faith Formation Committee meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. Met on April 15 & discussed more formation opportunities for the parish. Will offer continuation of Women of the Bible in July, with a morning and evening session. Checking on possibility of a concert/retreat with Sarah Hart in either Fall 2024 or Spring 2025. Also checking on Fr. Jim Sichko’s presentation “60 Minutes with Jesus”, for Lent 2025.

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**WORSHIP –** Karen Kuenzig sent report via email prior to meeting. Highlights include: Season of Lent and services for Easter Triduum were great. Projectors were cleaned and reprogrammed. Priests that are offering Masses in Fr. Bill’s absence have commented in positive way on music and A+E. Have need for youth to be lectors/eucharistic ministers.

**MUSIC** – Karen is no longer involved with music for NDA Masses; being handled by Matt Henson. Private donation received to upgrade microphone cords and mics.

PASSION PLAY was marvelous.

Karen reported she will be travelling to Ohio frequently to work on closing out details after deaths of her Father and Mother.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS/JUSTICE/CLOUT** – Beth Rich sent report regarding CLOUT prior to meeting: The Nehemiah Action Assembly was held at Memorial Auditorium on April 15, with ~ 1000 from throughout the city attending, including 9 from St. Lawrence. City leaders are negotiating a consent decree with US Dept of Justice to reform patterns of abuse and discrimination in LMPD. Mayor Craig Greenberg was in attendance and agreed to meet with CLOUT after the consent decree is public to update on actions being taken for compliance.

Older Adult Concerns – The Village model is a membership organization that connects members, older adults, to an array of practical support services and connections that enable them to enjoy an independent life.

Children and Youth – Dr. Polio from JCPS didn’t attend, but did send a video committing to meeting with the Clout Children & Youth committee chairs 3 times per year post MAP testing to review the outcome for the next two school years.

***DIVINE RENOVATION* – *Bringing your parish from maintenance to mission.***

Danielle Wiegandt sent resources and discussion questions prior to meeting, for council members to review and discuss. Need leadership from Pastor and Parish Staff to implement the program. Discussion followed regarding Chapter 1 of the book. More discussion regarding use of parish buildings and needed maintenance. Suggestion made to have greeters at every Mass, and getting more people involved in hospitality and welcoming guests.

Discussed: How do people in your parish speak about Jesus? Do they speak about a relationship with Jesus, or is it an intellectual knowledge about Jesus that is shared? Discussed having prayer partners for each NDA student receiving Sacraments. Suggestion to pair new families with a current family for 1st year in parish. Need more discipleship. What is process when a new family joins the parish? Need to encourage them to join ministries - cultivate relationships. Also need more people involved in outreach programs. Suggestion that part of Confirmation training for 8th graders to include signing up for ministries in Parish. Deacon David will bring list of new families to next PC meeting. Suggestion to start small to promote relationships. Discussed how preparation for First Communion has changed last few years. In previous years, posters with pictures of 2nd grade making First Communion included pockets containing slips with their names that parishioners could draw out and pray for that child.

Discussed need for a Parish Council Retreat - haven’t had a Retreat for several years.

**WILL DISCUSS CHAPTER 2 (pages 27-58) OF *DIVINE RENOVATION* AT NEXT PC MEETING. MAY WATCH A U-TUBE VIDEO SUGGESTED BY BETH RICH.**

**NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024 –MATT TO DECIDE 6 OR 6:30 PM.**

Respectively submitted,

Dee Gossman