**ST. LAWRENCE PARISH COUNCIL**

**FEBRUARY 25, 2025 (APPROVED MARCH 25, 2025)**

STAFF/COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES AT LARGE MEMBERS

Pastor – Rev. Steven Reeves Sarah Burke (excused)

Justin Endler

Chairperson – Matt Rasche Linda Morris

Vice Chair – Aimee Burton (excused) Abby Nauert

Beth Rich

Finance Council – Emily Rickert (excused) Angela Taylor (excused)

Worship – Karen Kuenzig Danielle Wiegandt (excused)

Planning & Maintenance – Matt Rasche Amy Wilson (excused)

Stewardship – Deacon David Maxwell (excused)

Formation – Vicki Neuner Alternates: TBA

Personnel Committee – Gena Rasche

NDA – Dee Dee Nauert

Booster Club – Joe Rickert (excused)

Fr. Steven opened the meeting with a prayer. Matt welcomed everyone and asked for approval of January minutes. January meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Gena Rasche, second by Beth Rich.

**Pastor’s Report:**

* Finance Council reports all approvals have been received for demolition permit for Rockford Lane house. Parish has received a generous donation from a parishioner to cover the costs.
* Hiring for a full-time staff position, Business Manager (Director of Parish Operations). Job description was distributed to PC. When this position is filled, the part time bookkeeping position will be eliminated.
* Monte Carlo was a success.
* Sacraments are continuing, with 8th grade Confirmation, Reconciliation for 3rd graders, Workshop for 2nd graders, First Communion in April. OCIA is continuing for completion at Easter Vigil. Rite of Election is coming up 1st Sunday of Lent.
* CEC preschool to NDA discussion. Met with Robert Cecil, Archdiocese CFO. He suggested a check list to tie up loose ends. Seems to be the right decision for Parish and NDA. Finance Council is supportive of this. CEC staff will be on NDA payroll. This change will provide for more financial clarity for CEC. NDA is going to new software system, FACTS. Discussion followed regarding grant money still in CEC account, which has been used to cover payroll. Also discussed enrollment at CEC, and tuition cost.
* Question to Fr. Steven regarding reporting tithing vs budget in bulletin – will plan to implement this when new Business Manager is in place.
* Discussion regarding position/salary of Business Manager. Archdiocese sets salary based on size of parish/qualifications. Will form a committee to interview applicants.

**Parish Concerns:** Vicki Neuner reported Mary & Elizabeth Hospital is planning a Health Fair, that would possibly be held in Mary Queen of Peace gym. Asking for St. Lawrence participation to announce date, when determined.

**Chairman’s Report**

* Rockford Lane property: Matt reported the permit applications are complete & submitted to city. Demo company doing all permits. Noted the house may be “historical”. The house was built in 1919. Hoping for April demolition. Discussion regarding contact from neighbors and family member who previously lived in the house.
* Received $3500 check for fence destroyed by drunk driver. Will put up a guardrail at the location. Planning to put up a sign at entrance to James R Meder Road, similar to Lewiston sign. Discussion followed regarding JR Meder Road and how to best utilize the road and space. Discussed NDA sign on fence along JR Meder Road.
* The old, damaged sign on Rockford Lane is not salvageable & will be torn down.

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**Old Business**

* Land next to Parish Hall in back of another Rockford Lane house. Was contacted by woman regarding purchase by St. Lawrence parish. Noted the property is land-locked. A lot of clean-up would be required. Need to clarify if she is actually the owner of the property, and the actual size of the property she wants to sell. Noted the Booster Club could utilize this space. Matt will call her and get more information.
* Need to update Parish Council Constitution and determine most efficient way to operate Parish Council. Several points in Constitution are not being followed currently. Matt will send out message asking for members to serve on committee. Archdiocese has Pastoral guidelines as well.
* Need new members nominated to replace members rolling off June 2025. Discussed extending service time. Matt suggests we propose new members that are NDA parents & all should think about personal invitations. Could announce at Mass for needs. Beth Rich suggested an introduction in bulletin that explains what Parish Council does. Discussion followed regarding possibly allowing members not able to attend meeting in person to attend meeting via Zoom.
* HVAC is on pause. Ashley will review school plans. Noted the boiler worked very well this winter. Have window units for air. Portable electric heaters could run off 220’s, same as air. Would need at least 16 of those.
* Divine Renovation Plan – Matt suggested PC doesn’t have time at meetings to implement this plan. Fr. Steven suggested options for Divine Renovation be thought about as the Constitution is reviewed. Beth suggests need team formed to execute the plan and communicate the vision. Core group of people to start, and broaden the plan. Many different facets of Parish need to be involved. Dee Dee suggested someone from PC should spearhead the plan, and pull others in. Need to find out if other Archdiocese parishes have implemented and their success stories.

**New Business**

Gathering space suggestions sent via email by Karen Kuenzig – discussion followed. All agreed the kiosks were good as they are. Regarding warming up the space with different type chairs and tables, PC agreed there shouldn’t be any fabric/soft seating in gathering space. Will form a subcommittee to review more.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**NDA** – Dee Dee Nauert reported we had Archdiocese accreditation team visit February 6. Went very well. Team complimented all stakeholders in all aspects. Interviewed teachers, leadership team, Board, Pastors. The report will come out in couple of weeks. NDA is going to open a highly structured classroom for students with developmental delays (K-3rd grade). Plan currently to have 4 students in this proposed classroom. Will have time to go into classroom of grade level they are in for short periods of time. Discussion followed regarding location of proposed classroom. Have currently accepted 2 students with siblings at NDA. Meeting with another family next week. Ashley Titus will gladly answer any questions regarding this. Are interviewing for teachers for this class.

**BOOSTERS** –Lenten Fish Frys will start March 7.

**FAITH FORMATION** - Vicki Neuner reported committee is planning a Lenten Day of Reflection on Saturday, March 29, from 9:00 am – 12 noon. Fr. Vincent from Mount St. Francis is leading. Will put announcement in bulletin. The Chosen Series is going well on Monday evenings at 6:30 PM. Bible Study on Wednesday’s at 6:30 PM is well attended. This week Bible Study topic will be Joseph.

**WORSHIP/MUSIC** – Karen Kuenzig sent report prior to meeting: Have received a quote on a tower computer needed in the loft for the live stream. Candlemas was a very cool celebration. Easter candle is 3’ and will be used for 1 year. Difficult to get Pascal Candles that don’t have stickers for year. Ash Wednesday is March 5, with school Mass at 8:15 AM, Liturgy of the Word/Distribution at 12:00 noon, and evening Mass at 7:00 PM.

**GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE –** Matt sent report prior to meeting and discussed items during meeting, in Chairman’s Report, above.

Meeting was adjourned with motion from Vicki Neuner, second by Linda Morris, and concluded with The Lord’s prayer.

**NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 25, AT 6:30 PM.**

Respectively submitted, Dee Gossman