

## **St. Maria Goretti Parish Council Minutes**

**Thursday, March 9, 2017**

**Parish Vision Statement:** Diverse in age, talents and experience, we, the faith community of St. Maria Goretti Parish, envision ourselves building God's Kingdom within and without. Centered in the Eucharist, we actively participate in education and leadership. United, we reach out to our neighbors with the love of Christ.

**Opening Prayer:** Led by Maureen Bennett

**Roll Call:** Fr. Jim DeBisschop, Maureen Bennett, Lorrie Polesky, Patti Jo Brown, Randy Jaminet, Dale Witzel, Camy Stone, Brad Keleher, and Jennifer Schnell

### **Strategic Plan**

#### **Finance Committee**

**Goal:** To enhance the financial well-being of the parish.

Crystal Arnold represented the Finance Committee. Crystal said that the parishioners of St. Maria Goretti are supportive of the church when the parish's needs are made clear. So far, a marketing program has not been developed; the needs of the parish are handled as they come up. There was a good response to requests for funds for SMA and for Belize.

There was some discussion about the benefits of electronic giving. Crystal would like to see an increase in automatic debits as that could save the parish \$1500 in envelope costs.

Randy Jaminet mentioned that peer data comparing the giving levels of parishes of similar size to SMG is available. He felt that the Finance Committee should have access to that data. He will find that information and provide a spreadsheet to the Finance Committee. It will be a useful tool for the committee to use as it communicates that information to the parishioners.

#### **Will and Bequeath Seminar**

A Will and Bequeath Seminar is being planned in conjunction with Mary, Our Lady of Peace Parish. In addition to legal and financial matters, the seminar will cover planning for a funeral and a funeral mass. No dates have been set yet.

#### **Long-Term Capital Planning**

A Long-Term Capital Planning Committee has been formed consisting of Fr. Jim DeBisschop, Crystal Arnold, Camy Stone, and John Kratt. The committee has not met yet.

#### **Annual Fundraiser**

The possibility of having an annual fundraiser for St. Maria Goretti Parish is being considered.

#### **Memorial Fund Committee**

A Memorial Fund Committee consisting of Fr. Jim, Camy Stone, and John Kratt has been established.

### **Birdies for Charity and Amazon Smile**

The Parish Council has asked the Finance Committee to register SMG with Birdies for Charity and Amazon Smile in order to generate more money for the parish. The Finance Committee will discuss these at its next meeting on April 19, 2017.

### **Quarterly Financial Statements**

Crystal said that the quarterly financial statements are placed in the bulletin on a timely basis. They are also now posted on the SMG Parish website.

### **Social Concerns Committee**

**Goal:** Improve involvement in the broader community

Sr. Judith Therese McNulty was unable to attend the Parish Council Meeting, but she sent information via email to Maureen Bennett.

For Christmas, the Social Concerns Committee found a family in need through The Center for Youth and Family Solutions for the parish to sponsor. Parishioners purchased gifts and gift cards as Christmas presents for the family.

The Social Concerns Committee recently had the Bread for the World Letter Writing Campaign. The group collected supplies for St. Joseph the Worker House. In March, the group will collect items for foster care children, and in April, there will be a clothing drive.

### **Old Business**

#### **Website**

Randy Jaminet reported that the Finance Committee Report has recently been updated on the website. Two items on the front page need to be replaced to keep the page current.

Jennifer Schnell has been updating the Facebook page for St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church. It was discovered that a second Facebook account for the parish was set up some time ago, but it has not been regularly updated. Jennifer will try to find out about shutting the second site down as it is confusing to parishioners to have two Facebook pages for the parish.

#### **Tablecloths and Serving Bowls**

Lorrie Polesky and Maureen Bennett have been researching the cost of new tablecloths for the Parish Hall. Lorrie reported on the prices from various companies. She will order one tablecloth from an online company to bring to the next meeting so that the Parish Council can decide whether or not to purchase linens from that company.

Lorrie and Maureen have not researched the cost of serving bowls for the Parish Hall yet.

#### **Bingo**

Patti Jo Brown reported that about 40 people participated in Bingo on Sunday, February 12. She said that the food was not as popular that afternoon because of the timing of the event. People had either already eaten lunch or had planned to go out to dinner after Bingo, so they didn't buy as much food from the kitchen as in the past. Even so, the event netted a profit of \$791.

The next Bingo will take place on Saturday, March 25. The kitchen will open at 5:00 PM, and Bingo will begin at 6:00.

Patti Jo would like the parish to apply for a state license which will cost \$200. Patti Jo will gather the paperwork for Fr. Jim to fill out and to approve.

### **Schedulers for the Liturgy Committee**

The Liturgy Committee has new schedulers to help organize the liturgical ministers. Nancy Robison, Joleen Easley, and Glenda Mahalla will take over the scheduling duties from Pat Turner.

### **Ministry Showcase**

In an effort to raise awareness of the various ministries at SMG, one ministry is being featured each month. Food Pantry volunteers will be recognized during the masses on the weekend of March 25-26. Sue Fournier or another volunteer will be asked to speak about the Food Pantry Ministry during both masses.

The Music Ministry will be recognized in April.

### **Stations of the Cross**

The Parish Councils at SMG and MOLOP helped with Stations of the Cross and a light supper afterwards at the Orion parish on Wednesday, March 8. Maureen Bennett thanked those Parish Council members who participated for their service.

### **Fundraising**

Camy Stone will present information about Amazon Smile and Birdies for Charity to the Finance Committee at its next meeting on April 19.

### **New Business**

#### **Topics for Website**

Parish Council suggested the following topics for the SMG website:

Jammie Jamison, Director of Religious Education, will be asked to write about Reconciliation and Confirmation.

Sue Fournier will be asked to write a few sentences about the Food Pantry Ministry.

#### **Strategic Planning**

The Executive Committee and the Parish Council will report in April.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, April 20, 2017, at 6 PM in the Parish Hall.

Lorrie Polesky  
Parish Council Secretary