

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

**Thursday, April 20, 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 Pat Turner

**Roll Call:** Pat Turner, Dale Witzel, Camy Stone, Jennifer Schnell, and Lorrie Polesky

### **Strategic Plan**

#### **Executive Committee**

Representing the Executive Committee, Camy Stone reported on the Executive Committee's progress on accomplishing some of its objectives.

**Objective #1:** Improve the quality of the parish bookkeeping systems

The Committee has successfully been working closely with Nancy Robison on the parish bookkeeping system provided by the Diocese.

**Objective #4:** Participate actively in area parishes

St. Maria Goretti Parish participated in the Ecumenical lunches during Lent. Parishioners have been volunteering at the Coal Valley Food Pantry in conjunction with other Coal Valley churches.

**Objective #6:** Ensure the Executive Committee meets regularly

The Executive Committee, which consists of John Kratt, Camy Stone, and Fr. Jim DeBisschop, meets regularly.

#### **Parish Council**

Members of the Parish Council discussed its progress in reaching some of the objectives.

**Objective #1:** Use existing programs to grow available ministries

SMG parishioners were invited to attend the weekly Stations of the Cross at Mary Our Lady of Peace.

**Objective #2:** Utilize various forms of communication to raise knowledge and encourage involvement.

Parishioners are kept informed of events at SMG through the weekly bulletin, the announcements during Mass, the parish website, and the parish social media sites.

Representatives of the various parish ministries give witness during the masses when a ministry is showcased.

Objective #3: Encourage involvement from a personal perspective

The Parish Council discussed the importance of personally asking parishioners to join ministries and to take on leadership positions.

Objective #5: Establish a big goal and create a big event

The Parish Council brainstormed various ideas for a fundraiser. Dale mentioned that there was a parish that successfully auctioned off a pew and a parking spot for a set amount of time, such as a month. Other ideas mentioned were a car show and a yard sale.

## **Old Business**

### **Bingo**

Although Patti Jo Brown was unable to attend the Parish Council meeting, she submitted a report on the Bingo Night held on March 25. The total profit was \$846.68 after paying the expenses of \$129.57. The Finance Committee requested that all reimbursements for purchases and other expenses be paid out of the Bingo profits on the evening of the event.

### **Website and Facebook**

Because Randy Jaminet was out of town and unable to attend the meeting, he will report on the parish website next month. Jennifer Schnell updated the Facebook page by posting the Holy Week schedule.

### **Tablecloths**

Lorrie Polesky brought 2 tablecloths that she had ordered online for the Parish Council to consider. She will continue to research other sources for tablecloths and bring samples to the May meeting. These tablecloths are meant to replace the worn ones in the parish hall that are used for funeral luncheons and other events.

### **Ministry Showcase**

The Food Pantry ministry was showcased in March, and the Music ministry was featured at the masses during the weekend of April 22 and 23.

### **Fundraising**

Camy Stone reported on the Birdies for Charity and the Amazon Smile programs as possible fundraisers for the parish. She will present the programs to the Finance Committee for discussion.

### **Topic for Website for May**

The Food Pantry will be featured in May on the parish website.

### **Parish Council Terms**

Brad Keleher's, and Dale Witzel's Parish Council terms will end on June 30, 2017. Camy Stone will remain on the Council as Trustee Representative, and Dale has agreed to seek a second term.

### **Strategic Planning Reports**

The Liturgical and Social Concerns Committees will report on their progress toward meeting their objectives at the May meeting.

### **Closing Prayer**

Pat Turner led the closing prayer.

The next meeting will be held on May 11, 2017, at 6 pm in the Parish Hall.