**St Gregory the Great Family**

**Parish Council Minutes**

**January 17, 2025**

Present: Fr. Steve, Fr. Aaron, Debbie Birck, John Elliott, Dan Frey, Gloria Parker-Martin, Jim Moyer, Chris Richard, Megan Roach, Jeff Zalar

Absent: Pam Payne

**Opening Prayer**: Jim Moyer, prayers were also offered for Pam, Jeff, and Jim and their families

**Pastor’s report**:

* Catholic Ministries Appeal is offering 6 evenings of prayer throughout the Archdiocese. One of those evenings will be held at GA on February 11thwith Fr. Aaron presiding.
* Changes in Federal Government regulations are occurring. Our churches do not have to allow ICE to enter a church without a federal warrant. We can insist on that. This is of particular importance to the 1:30 Mass attendees. The warrant must be signed by a judge.
* Reporting requirements for Safe Environment are moving forward for our schools. The state is requiring a button that teachers will wear to contact authorities and lock doors in the event of an emergency.
* GA will be hiring a resource officer that it will share with McNicholas High School. Salary and time-share are being worked out.
* Fr. Aaron spent 2 days at a program run by Catholic Leadership Institute.
* A new Archbishop should be announced in March.

**Liaison Reports**:

* Dan Frey – GA has finalized their 2025-2026 enrollment at approximately 550 students.

They have a waiting list for Pre-School and several of the lower grades.

* Jim Moyer- (for Pam Payne) Barb Szucsik will be combining all 3 parishes social action ministries under “one roof”. She is doing inventory now in order to have a better sense of the ministries that we have and how to best organize them all. IHM also has signed a new covenant with their twinning parish in Batahola, Nicaragua. They renew this every 5 years. This is their 25th anniversary of partnership.
* John Elliott- SJF has started doing an inventory of their ministries so they can be assigned to the organizational chart. They will consider whether their ministries will be meeting in the next 6-12 months. Also, they will be discussing a plan for dissolution as necessary.
* Debbie Birck- met with the Deacons. Google Calendar is updated to include all Masses, ie. First Communions, Confirmations, Ash Wednesday, Easter, etc. so that the Deacons can plan and sign up. Very positive meeting. All are feeling comfortable and working well. Deacon Dave Shea will be attending Leadership Team meetings going forward. Deacon Bob Fey is looking at the algorithm that is used to schedule Deacons in order to have a fair distribution of Masses.
* Gloria Parker-Martin- has had little response from Michael. He stated that they are looking at a Worship Council, but no feedback has been given to Gloria. Megan suggested that Michael and Matt work with parishioners to achieve buy-in prior to implementing new processes and procedures (like Ministry Scheduler). She also suggested that Matt collaborate with the elementary teachers to come up with “fun” age-appropriate church songs to teach the students to get them more engaged in the Mass
* Chris Richard- A new extension of Health and Love in Action is a ministry being designed to serve the homebound by spending time visiting them. Kendall is doing a very good job of using the resources available to her. She is very happy in her job.
* Megan Roach-CCD, PRP, is being coordinated across the family for next year. Traditional Sunday programming will be at GA, family programming with be at IHM and the summer programs will be at SJF. Each parish will provide a different format to serve the needs of all the families.

The Family Organization Chart is finalized. 6 councils will be formed. There has been a lot of effort to have the schools more involved in family opportunities.

Finances will come together in the next couple of years. The Education Commissions will remain separate for now.

**February 25th** we will host a Town Hall meeting at GA. The focus will be on “Creation of Councils”. Maggie will set the agenda. We will do recruitment for the councils. There will be recruitment cards available at the end of the evening. The evening will include sharing “next steps” as well as Q&A. Jim will handle this piece. We will also offer a Saturday morning session. Council and Leadership teams will be present and visible. Our ultimate goal is to find people to be on these councils who want the ***best for the*** ***family.***

**Feedback Report**: Jim shared that we are clearer on our role. We support staff well. We were visible at the start of this process but slacked off on that a bit. We are ramping up again. We all agree that Leadership should continue to meet with us yearly. Leadership agrees.

Pam, Dan, and John are set to roll off the Council Jim will meet with them privately. Succession planning will be in progress.

We will look at the next events for 300+ parishioners and take ownership of those.

**How do we retain good staff and the role of culture and commitment to our success?**

* We should make sure all are clear on our goals and mission so all can buy-in to support and work toward those goals. We should continue to find ways to show appreciation to staff and parishioners for all their work and support. That effort will help foster camaraderie.
* We should be with staff in social situations.
* We should compensate them for their time and pay them properly. How do we support that and fold in accountability for what they need to do?

How can we set the family up for success?

**Open Forum:**

Conversation about Bernardin and Moeller K of C Councils. Debbie Birck will follow up

We will reschedule evening at Moyers.

**Closing Prayer:** Jim Moyer

**Next meeting:** February 24, 2025 at St. John Fisher