**St. Gregory the Great Pastoral Parish Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 10th, 2017**

Present: Fr. Tom Demse, Donna Higgins, Mike Esser, Barb Wilk, Mary Gentile, Margaret Casey, Randy Green, Patti Penkalski, Yolande Lasky and Barb Freuck.

Absent: Marge Fischer, Tom Molinski and Michelle Konkel.

The meeting started at 7:05 P.M. Minutes of the September Pastoral Parish Council meeting were approved with the amended corrections.

Fr. Tom announced that Jane Hanley will oversee the Hospitality & Community Life Commission.

Principal Amy Schlegel would like the parish council members to fill out the survey and return it to her before the accreditation dates of November 1st, 2017 and November 2nd, 2017. Amy Schlegel plans to meet with some of the Pastoral Parish Council members during the day on November 1st and November 2nd, 2017. (It is not necessary that the entire council be at this meeting.)

**Fr. Tom’s Time:**

There are 12 young people from St. Greg’s preparing for Confirmation. Confirmation for Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Greg’s young people will take place at St. Greg’s on Sunday, May 20th, 2018 at 2 P.M. Bishop Haines will officiate at the Confirmation.

Wednesday, November 1st, 2017 is All Saints Day and Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 A.M., 8:30 A.M. (with school children) and 6:00 P.M.

Thursday, November 2nd, 2017 is All Souls’ Day. This year, all are invited to the 4:00 P.M. Mass on Saturday, November 4th, 2017 Mass of Anticipation where we will remember in a special way all our beloved dead, and especially those parishioners who have gone before us in the past year.

On Thursday, November 30th, 2017 there will be First Reconciliation for our school age children that have been preparing for this event.

**Patti Penkalski:**

Paperwork regardingthe exterior signage was distributed to council members showing the upcoming work to be done around the parish grounds. New exterior signage will start to be put up around the parish grounds in October. Interior signage will follow after exterior signage is finished.

Pastoral Parish Council was informed regarding our parish assessment to the Archdiocese. This assessment comes to the Archdiocese from each parish and go to funds that help our parishes throughout the year.

No financials due to audit still being done. At the next Pastoral Parish Council meeting, July, August and September reports as well as the end of the fiscal year report should be available for review. There will be an abbreviated letter to parishioners after the report is completed.

**Commission Reports:**

**Liturgy and Sacraments:** Barb Freuck

Updates: Cindy continues with light duty with restrictions. She continues with PT and daily PT at home. She is returning slowly to her office duties at this time.

Matt Lawrenz continues on his medical leave with Tim Dyksinski filling in with the choir at this time. You can check in to see how Matt is doing on his Caring Bridges link online.

If you think you know someone who might be good at any of the volunteer positions of acolytes, readers and liturgical ministers, please ask the parishioner personally or give Cindy Bremeier a call with the parishioner’s name.

The Fall decorations for the church will be done on Tuesday, October 31st, 2017 after the 8:15 A.M. Mass.

The Arts & Environment Committee will meet on Wednesday, November 8th, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. in the Teen Room. The Committee will be planning the decoration ideas for the church for the Advent/Christmas season. Anyone in the parish is welcome to join the Arts & Environment Committee and help set up the church for the upcoming seasons.

**Justice & Charity:** Mary Gentile

In future documents, please be sure to use the name **Justice and Charity,** rather than Human Concerns, for this commission as directed by the Archdiocesan directives from the synod.

St. Vincent de Paul Society: The group is looking for volunteers. Members spoke at all Masses on Saturday/Sunday, October 7/8. The pantry continues to be open every 1st and 3rd Saturday from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon.

In August, they assisted 63 households, including 169 total family members with 382 bags of food, 3 grocery store cards, 1 bus pass, $842 in rental assistance, appliances, prescriptions and vouchers for the SVDP store for mattresses.

In August, $1,173 was collected through the poor boxes and other contributions.

The annual November food drive is coming up in November. Food will be collected at all Masses.

Every Monday in November, they will be needing extra volunteers at 9:00 A.M. to help shelve the food collected.

InReach/OutReach**:** IROR is working in conjunction with the SVDP Society to helpwith the November food drive.

IROR staffed a lunch meal at the Gathering’s southside meal program on Saturday, September 30th, 2017. They will staff another meal in December.

St. Ben’s Meal Program: Our group continues to prepare and serve a meal every 4th Wednesday.

Hospitality Sundays schedule has been set for October, 2017 through June, 2018.

**Finance:** Margaret Casey

Nothing additional to be added to Patti Penkalski’s report at this time.

**Pastoral Care:** Barb Wilk

Bereavement Ministry: Planning process has begun for the upcoming Bereavement Mass. Mass will be held on November 4th, 2017 at 4:00 P.M.

Ministries to the Sick/Homebound: A comprehensive list has been compiled and was provided to the 6th grade students. Students will be paired up with a family they will correspond with throughout the school year. Students prepare individually made cards and correspondence to share with their families and let them know they are thought of within our community.

All other ministries are moving forward as usual.

**Hospitality and Community Life**: Randy Green

Nothing to report right now. Jane Hanley will start to oversee the Hospitality and Community Life Commission now that she has been trained as the Parish Secretary.

**School Commission**: Yolande Lasky

Meeting was held on September 26th, 2017.

Commission Action Items:

* A new ‘Elevator Speech’ will be developed by Amy Schlegel and the Commission.
* The School Commission would be happy to take the Hospitality Sunday scheduled for January 21, 2018.
* Announcements for the bulletin and school newsletter regarding the recruitment of new members for the School Commission will be completed.

Principal’s Report:

* School enrollment as of 9/26/17 is at 256 students. The budgeted enrollment number is 250 students.
* Budget numbers were not available for the September meeting. Mark Kurzynski and Patti Penkalski will be invited to the November Commission meeting to discuss budget questions.
* Staff update: The 3rd and 5th grade aides have resigned. A new 5th grade aide started on 9/25/17. It is possible an aide for grade 8 has been found.
* The substitute Physical Education teacher will be leaving in mid-October. A candidate for the position is scheduled for an interview. The candidate does not have a degree and would have to complete a 5-year academic plan to obtain a teaching license. A Spanish teacher is needed and Georgia Wendorf will be on medical leave starting in November.

Old Business/Open Discussion/Additional Items:

* Father Tom has requested that students and the School Commission members present during Catholic Schools Week. CSW 2018 will be from January 28 to February 3.
* Amy Schlegel is considering conducting a ‘State of the School’ address in two separate sessions. One session will be held for parents/guardians of younger grade children and another for parents/guardians of older grade students. The goal is to inform parents as to why certain ‘specials’ and extra curricular activities have been eliminated. It is due to lack of volunteers. It is hoped that the sessions will entice parents/guardians to volunteer.

**Stewardship:** Mike Esser

Upcoming Spirituality of Stewardship Conference for Leaders is scheduled for Friday, November 3rd, 2017 and will be repeated on Saturday, November 4th, 2017. It will run from 8:30 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. and will be held at Archbishop Cousins Catholic Center.

Closing Notes:

Next meeting of the Pastoral Parish Council is November 14th, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in the Great Room.

Closing Prayer for November – Barb Freuck

School Accreditation Meeting – November 1st, 2017 at 2:00 P.M. and November 2nd, 2017.

Spirituality of Stewardship Conference – November 3rd, 2017 and November 4th, 2017.

Closing Prayer: Randy Green

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Minutes submitted by Barb Freuck, Secretary

10-22-2017 St. Greg’s Pastoral Parish Council Minutes (Meeting 10-10-2017)