**Parish Council Minutes Date: 8/20/2024**

Anne Marie Gavel, Chair

Beth Coleman

Maureen Mahowald

Casey Martin

Angeles Martinez

Jean Mielke

Angela Piram

Roma Lee Rasmussen

John Rimstad

“The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community.”

― **Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel: Evangelii Gaudium**

Parish Council

**In Attendance:** Fr. Liekhus, Anne Marie Gavel, Angela Piram, John Rimstad, Roma Lee Rasmussen, Maureen Mahowald, Beth Coleman. Jean Mielke, Angeles Martinez

**Absent:** Beth Schorle, Fr. David, Casey Martin

**6:30 p.m. Opening Parish Prayer**

**6:35 p.m. Housekeeping**

June 2024 Minutes Approved

**7 p.m. Commission Formation/Meetings**

The council reviewed the Commission SMART goal and a summary of the May responses to “what specifically are we trying to achieve with the Commission structure?” The council then discussed the following questions, including feedback from the August commission meeting.

* What is working Commission process/structure?
  + Communication in bulletin about commissions
  + Energy in the August Commission meeting
  + August meeting focused the Commissions on action steps to build relationships with the ministries
* What do we need to do to have an even more effective Commission structure and process?
  + Meeting duration 1.5 hr.
  + Continue to ask participants at each commission meeting what is working? what is not?  Adjust approach along the way.
  + Focus the commissions on building relationships with ministries so that they can identify the tangible needs of the existing ministry. Are there duplicate ministries?
* What are the collaboration opportunities across ministries, opportunities to enhance ministries? New ideas?
  + The council recognizes that there are too few people to meet with the many ministries to gain an understanding of the ministry. The council asked commissions to prioritize what ministries to meet with and as a council agreed to engage, to “divide and conquer,” to offer support for the big task to understand the Richfield Catholic Community ministries.
  + Be ok with taking small steps to build the fully functioning commission, this will take time to develop.
  + Be ok that we do not have leaders of the commissions right now.
  + The council agreed that a phone call from the parish liaison to the commission.
  + participants could be helpful. Ask about the progress of the commissions to reach ministries. As well as offer to help completing this task to contact ministries so that they are prepared for the October commission meeting.
  + Future: Collect testimonials from ministries that have benefited from the commission structure.

**8: p.m. Commission Next steps**

* Parish Council finalized the Commission calendar from October 2024 – December 2025.
* Microsoft TEAM assistance at October commission meeting
* Draft October Agenda Items
  + Reflection - inspiration
  + Commissions share information about how they are building relationships with the ministries, learning about the ministries dreams, successes, and obstacle(s)
  + Introduce Commission guidebook?
  + Walk through Commission structure and process case study.

**8:15 p.m. Parish Council summarized Next Steps**

* Council members to review and edit the Commission handbook by 9/17/24. The guidebook can be found in TEAMS/General/Files.
* The Council members agreed that a phone call from the parish liaison to the commission participants could be helpful. Ask about the progress of the commissions to reach ministries. As well as offer to help completing this task to contact ministries so that they are prepared for the October commission meeting.
* Build a Commission case study. At the August Commissions meeting the group asked that we provide an example of how the Commission structure process works. Present the case study at 10/5/24 commission meeting. Angeles Martinez.
* Share Commission meeting schedule with Commissions members.  AMG will send the schedule to commissions once we have confirmation of the room locations.

**8:30 Closing prayer**

**Meeting Adjourned**