Date: April 16, 2025

Time: 4:00 PM

Facilitator: President Wendy Worley

Acting Secretary: Bill Scheible

# In attendance

President, Wendy Worley; V.P., Joan Washburn; Treasurer Tim Kearney, Ed Kochalski, Bill Scheible, Barb Collins, Carol Fox, Judy Geiger, Joan Nunnery, Fr. Jim Brown, and new member Cathy Daar.

Meeting Opened at 4:05pm with a prayer led by Father James Brown, and The Prayer to End Abortion led by Wendy Worley.

Guest Cathy Darr was welcomed as a new regular member.

# Approval of minutes

The minutes emailed by Wendy had been read and were approved with no changes unanimously (moved by Joan N., 2nd Fr. Jim)

# Finances

Tim Kearney presented the Treasurers report showing miscellaneous expenditures , contributions and reimbursements with an ending balance of $29,505.70. The Treasurer’s report was approved unanimously. (Motion: Bill, 2nd Joan W.) Tim requested a motion to open a checking account under our new corporation and convert the funds currently held in checking under St. Joe Catholic church to the new account.

Bill Scheible made a motion, seconded by Ed Kochalski and approved unanimously, that the Treasurer is instructed to close the former bank checking account at the Marblehead Bank. He is also instructed to open a new checking account at the same bank by transferring the total outstanding balance from the old ICSJ account to the new Respect Life Ministry of Ottawa County account. The new signers (only one is required) on the new account will be: Timothy L Kearney, Treasurer, Robert Colson, Assistant Treasurer.

# Old Business

1. Ed Kochalski reported that incorporation was complete, and a Federal EIN has been assigned. State Vendor license will be acquired soon so that non-profit status can be demonstrated when purchasing goods and services. Ed also submitted draft By-Laws for review and updates by members to be finalized at the next board meeting in May. Bill will place these on the website and Wendy will let all members have a copy or link to download from the website and provide comments to the By-Laws and Member profile & agreement from before the next meeting.
2. Wendy discussed the Mar 28th FFL Legislative Breakfast where we reserved a table as highly informative and appreciated by all in attendance. Others agreed.
3. At the recommendation of Joan Nunnery, a motion was made by Joan Washburn to donate $100 to the American Life League, seconded by Ed Kochalski and approved unanimously.
4. A request by the Respect Life Ministry at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Mesa, Arizona liked our logo and requested the ability to modify with their name. Members were generally in agreement to allow this, but perhaps we should copyright our logo. Ed Kochalski mentioned copyrighting is expensive but offered to explore other protections or wording needed to protect our access if we share it. Ed will report back by the next meeting for a final decision.

# Committee reports

Committee reports

* Membership – V.p. Joan Washburn distributed a handout on Ideas from the membership committee (she, Barb Collins, Jan Kerul and Bob Colson). Some of the suggestions were discussed such as reaching out to St. Boniface again (Bill sent contact info to Joan W. during mtg.), speaking at Republican Women’s Club of Ottawa (Bill sent a follow-up to Jill Steinbaugh who forwarded to Denise Marlin who is in charge of events), a monthly email campaign using a formatted email tool and a donor appreciation event.
* Communications – Bill mentioned that the web site allows for email to members for $4/mo. Wendy moved to authorize this higher end email for the website, Joan W seconded, membership approved unanimously.
* Fund-Raising – Joan Nunnery discussed fund-raising sponsorships. One suggestion was finding someone to investigate and help write grants as a way to raise funds. Steph Gonya was mentioned as one possibility.
* Outreach – Wendy reminded everyone of Ottawa County Pregnancy Center purse bingo fund-raiser where we have a table of 8 for RLMOC.

# Next meeting

5/21/2025, Denny Bergeman Hall

Fr. Jim made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tim Kearney and approved unanimously. The meeting ended with the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted.

William J Scheible, board member (acting secretary)