**WOMEN’S CHOICE NETWORK
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Meeting Date**: March 14, 2017

**Location:** Wexford Office

**In Attendance:** Amy Scheuring Ann Tanis
 Jen Schellhaas Peaches Cuccia
 Chris Kelley Drew Zerick

Meeting was opened in prayer by Ann at 7:15pm.

**Board Officer Elections**

By unanimous vote, the Board members present approved the following Board Officers for 2017:

President- Ann Tanis Vice President- Gerry Cano

Treasurer- Drew Zerick Secretary- Chris Kelley
It was also announced that Gail Daniele has made the difficult decision to step down from the Board.

**January Retreat Assignments**

After limited discussion of several of the topics (Board Roles & Expectations and the Vision Statement) it was decided to postpone further discussion until the next meeting.

**2017 Budget**

At the present time, the Draft Budget projects a $29,000 deficit for the year. There was discussion as to whether the Board should approve a deficit budget. Additional discussion centered on possible ways to increase revenue and/or decrease expenses. The consensus of the attendees was to not “nickel and dime” the expenses but, instead, search for creative ways to increase revenues. The two prevailing thoughts were to maximize the revenue from existing events (e.g. the Banquet) and investigate ideas for new fundraising events.

**Recent Annual Banquets- details**

We discussed the past three Banquets, what we thought went well, what didn’t go so well, and the lessons learned.

• 2014: Venue- The Chadwick in Wexford. Attendance was 425. The cost per attendee was $50.00.
 The dynamic speaker was Sean Carney (*40 Days for Life*). The profit was $94,000.

• 2015: 30th Anniversary Gala. Venue- The Omni William Penn in Pittsburgh. Attendance was 650.
 The cost per attendee was $89.00. The two speakers were remembered as “OK”, but not
 dynamic. The profit was $115,486.

• 2016: Having outgrown local facilities’ ability to host one banquet, we chose two venues- Holy
 Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in McCandless and the DoubleTree Hotel in Monroeville.
 Attendance was ~ 240 per location. The cost per attendee was $90.00.Speakers were less
 than OK. The giving-per-person was light, with a profit of only $4,500. The thought was that
 a significant number of attendees, whose churches were Table Sponsors, believed that their
 church had “bought” their seat/dinner and that a further contribution was unnecessary.

**Board Member Responsibilities**

Amy reiterated that all Board Members are required to be Table Hosts at the Banquet and believe that the people at their table will contribute significantly that evening and throughout the year with their annual pledge.

 9:30pm – Amy closed the meeting in prayer.