

St Vincent DePaul Meeting Minutes

St Boniface Conference

Meeting Date 08/28/2017

Attendees:

Amber Mingo		Kathy Boh	X		
Barb Luken	X	Rich Kelly	X		
Casey Scullin	X	Sue Crosby	X		
Chuck Menke	X	Marie Michel	X		
David Crosby	X	Stephanie Heidemann	X		
Gail Kelly	X				
Jim Kuhn	X				
Karen Cable	X				

CALL TO ORDER – Barb Luken

- Thanks to the members for electing Barb as President
 - Opening prayer for Society Meeting

SECRETARY REPORT – Casey Scullin

- Minutes from the 7/27/2017 meeting approved
- Database update – data captured for everyone
- Donation thank you notes sent for donations over \$50.00

TREASURER'S REPORT – Chuck Menke

- Reviewed the August report and discussed transactions and expenditures
- Mike is an “employee” when he drives the van
- Reporting the pay for drivers as an auto expense – have to be an employee to drive the van in order to be covered by the insurance
- Reviewed year to date – right now expenses are running higher than income; still have the \$10,000 investment with the Archdiocese

SPIRITUAL FORMATION – Kathy Boh

- Discussed a book written by a member of Catholic Charities
- This book contains similar truths and values as SVDP relative to meeting and working with the poor
- Reading: faces of the poor are changing and numbers growing – poverty surrounds us everywhere
- Myth of poverty is the blame lies with the individuals rather than the institutions and systems; many Americans strive to achieve the American dream, but are still left out
- Poverty is a human made disaster rather than something outside of our control
- Questions: what have you found most revealing and surprising since working with people through SVDP; what questions or comments are you hearing from others about the poor
- Discussion around personal experience and encounters with those in need as well as the complexity of poverty

OLD BUSINESS

National Database – Casey

- All data has been collected with only one member that needs to be entered

Financial Assistance – Barb

- \$250.00 is our cap for financial assistance
- When do we use financial assistance – requests for help has gone up; many were referred to other parishes and agencies like Bank Street or CAIN
- Christ the Church Cathedral provides assistance
- If a parishioner contacts SVDP for help, we will provide assistance – one person requested assistance after an accident

Checkbook signers – Barb/Chuck

- Jenni was to go to the bank this week to drop off the paperwork
- Should Fr Joe still sign checks? Ordained ministers are not permitted to be a signer per SVDP, but Fr Joe needs to stay on the account to maintain the insurance on the funds
- Fr Joe has a history of being engaged in SVDP

“Day to Dream” beds – Barb

- Follow up on the event – some clients got beds and they are enjoying them
- Worked out well for families that participated

Officers Meeting on 9/16 with registration by 9/8

NEW BUSINESS

Pantry – updates and concerns – Sue/Barb

- Averaging 27 families until July when it went up to 31
- Number of small families being served is going up; may be the result of a new halfway house in the neighborhood
- Will need to begin to plan for a higher average
- Free Store –some food has not been available for a period of 2 to 4 weeks; when staples are missing, it is OK to supplement with purchases from places like the Dollar Store
- Free Store has not been punctual in filling orders – wait times are extended; will begin on line ordering to see if that helps
- Free Store is having an Appreciation Conference – these issues will be raised at this meeting
- Thursday team will begin a schedule of two weeks on and one week off in September
- Second Sunday of September will start Sunday school so food will need to be put away
- November 18 is Parish Festival weekend so some pantry workers will be unavailable
- Saturday after Thanksgiving pantry will be closed

Pantry – St Ursula girls – Barb

- Barb to go to St Ursula to meet girls slated to work this year – will provide them a schedule

Pantry – 5 Saturdays this month

- If St Ursula girls will probably begin working in September
- The Kellys volunteered to work the fifth Saturday of September
- November has some weekends that need to be covered

Pantry – Morton Food Pantry hours

- Open from 12 until 2 on the two Saturdays in the month

Pantry – Holidays/CAIN – Thanksgiving flyer

- Will distribute chicken rather than turkey
- CAIN has turkey so if people want that, refer them there
- Open on Dec 23 and closed on Dec 30 as Free Store Food Bank is closed between Christmas and New Years
- CAIN food pantry will be open until mid-December this year since they are not doing the toy shop
- CAIN in November will be distributing a blessing bag that contains items for Thanksgiving
- When should SVDP make the Holiday flyer available in the St Boniface bulletin? Will include it late September, early October
- Decision not to ask the parishioners for gifts for Christmas – often get these kinds of items from St Ursula
- Make the pantry, or items in the pantry, more available during the holidays – perhaps ask parishioners for some items that distributed
- Will do chickens in November for Thanksgiving (folks will register through the month of October) and for December get 50 chickens for Christmas for distribution on Dec 23

Treasury – proper use of funds – don't hoard money, but make sure it finds its way back to those we serve

- Allow three shopping days longer months
- They can choose – increase the number of items
- Can we create greater variety in number of choices when possible
- Prudent to always have six months worth of operating funds on hand, but money should be spent down

Disaster Relief request for Texas

- Donate \$250.00 for support

Thank You notes

- Need to investigate where to purchase thank you notes when current supply is out

Masses – for Conference/Benefactors/St Frederick and St Vincent feasts

- Kathy will look into Masses for the conference

5 Sundays in October – counters on Halloween

- Counters need to provide amounts to Marc
- Secretary just gets a list of names

Other topics:

- Distributed ballots for election of Diocesan SVDP President
- Need ballots back to Bank Street by 9/22

Thank you

NEXT MEETING ON 9/26 at 7:00PM

CLOSING PRAYER – Kathy Boh