Society of St. Vincent de Paul

St. Ann, Bethany Beach Conference

Minutes for November 14, 2016

Tish Galu called the meeting to order for Mike Farrar at 9:30 AM in Delaney Hall. Please for Mike’s daughter who is starting a new cancer treatment today. Deacon Jack Freebery led us in opening prayer and a Gospel reflection: Live Faithfully Now.

**Newcomers:** Vince and Mary Catania; Sue DiTommaso: Fran and Jim Karns; Fran and Bill Metkiff; Mary Senk. (Two couples left before I could get their complete names: John and Edna; Bob and Dee.)

**President’s Report**: Tish explained to the newcomers our conference team structure and function. She gave us some background on the Social Security Act. When did it start? (1947). Who was not included? (Farm workers and domestics). Domestics have only been covered by SS in the last 10 years. Farm workers are still not covered.

**Minutes from last meeting**: $4,000 dollars was spent, $4,000 taken in, not $400 as recorded. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer:** Balance is $15,794.38. Since the October meeting, we spent$3,252 and received $6473.84. $2,000 of our revenue was from Fr. Klevence to recognize the donation by a Boy Scout for the original garden at OLG. There was also significant response to the appeal by Tish Galu at every Sunday Mass at OLG and St. Ann’s during October. Thanks to Fr. Klevence and Tish for their leadership and support.

**Christmas Wreaths** (Sue Clarke): **Wreath assembling dates are Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at 9:30 AM** **in Delaney Hall**. With the help of a florist, we need to make 150 wreaths. Bring pine cones, clippers and glue gun if you have one; we have 2 bow makers. Wreaths are $20 apiece and can be pre-ordered. Sign-up sheets are available for volunteer sellers. **Wreaths will be sold the weekends of** **December 3-4, and December 9-10 at St. Ann’s**. Rosemary Wlaschin asked if the Dec. 1 Sodality meeting in Delaney Hall will conflict with the wreath making. Sue said it’s been taken care of.

**Team Reports**: Tish thanked Dan DiLuzio for getting information into the Bulletin.

Team One: Joe Lane reported 4 Client Calls; $199.45 spent for a car payment. 2 out of area calls, one pending. No Home Visits. 6 clients at Food Pantry, 12 bags of food given out.

Team Two (Rosemary): 9 CCs, $421 spent. 1 HV with 2 bags of food. 14 at FP, 43 bags of food.

Team 3(Bill Clarke): 8 CC, $175 electric bill, $106, water bill. Several OOA calls. FP (Jim Kuczinski) 9 clients, 18 bags of food.

Team Four **(**Tish): 2 CCs. I HV, $193.24 electric bill. FP (Jim Lutrzykowski) 8 clients, 16 bags of food.

Tish distributed team calendars for January, February, March of 2017, which she will send to all team leaders. Dan will put them on-line.

**Food Pantry**: Gary Bauer has done a hand-out for FP hours and days. It needs a Spanish translation which Tish will do. Rosa didn’t know Millsboro was OOA. Jim O’Brien asked if Rosemary’s Thanks for Thousands information will be distributed at FP. Tish is meeting with Ricardo to get Spanish or Spanish-speaking volunteers. FP is closed Thanksgiving Day, but the rotation will stay the same.

**Spiritual Enrichment Committee**: Marilyn Janus reported she, Rosemary and Mary Ann Conlon met on November 17. They are trying to confirm a speaker for the conference Day of Reflection in the spring.

**Giving Tree** (Eileen Quigley): Tables will be set up in SA vestibule beginning November 19. **Can pick up gift cards until Friday, December 9, 2016**. See flier in church bulletin for instructions. Getting families from Pyle Center, many wonderful stories. After meeting today, will put labels on cards, could always use help. Kids only. Do not wrap gifts, but can include wrapping paper for a family. **Deadline for drop-off at either church is December 10-11 weekend**. (St. Ann’s only on Monday, December 12.)

**Fund-raising** (Tish): she, Joe, Leonore Thommes and Ray Aumiller will meet with Fr. Klevence. They are considering funds from foundations and getting acquainted with well-placed people, outside of church. Tentative calendar: Summer, VIC Dance; winter, Holiday wreaths; spring, Leonore will research See’s Easter candy; Ray suggested a SVDP booth on Bethany Beach boardwalk Fairs, in June and September. Perhaps a direct appeal at summer Masses with a second collection. On November 20, a mini-choir concert will close the Door of Mercy, with proceeds going to SVDP.

**Garden:** Mike Galu thanked all the faithful waterers. Will continue watering until frost. Compost bins have been installed; bring veggie scraps (no meat). Frost covers have been installed, but were rolled back when weather warmed. Seedlings will be planted in January to save cost of buying plants.

**“Catholics Care” T-shirts**: Tish modeled one. Available in box on back table, several sizes, $10 apiece. Dan asked if other groups in church might want them for their ministries. Madelyn Lazaro asked if we could wear them on FP days. (Yes).

**New Forms** (Tish): New Client Interview forms are available; would value feedback from teams. Updated form enables teams to find out early if client is OOA and what their need is. Resource Guide has also changed.

Deacon Jack walked us through the Client “Initial Follow-Up” Guidelines and “Extended Care Team” forms. There are two levels of follow-up: 1) initial; 2) extended care. Tish role-played an initial call, and explained the Pyle Center and its functions to the newcomers. Money is not necessarily an issue. Clients may be referred to Catholic Charities in Georgetown, who may help more frequently than every six months, and may exceed our $200 limit per client call. She urged everyone to get to know the Resource Guide. Vince Catania asked who calls the Pyle Center, the CC team or the Extended Care team (the CC team).

**New Business**: Gary emphasized that we should call the Pyle Center for all clients. Deacon Jack thanked newcomers for participating in the discussion. Madelyn told newcomers they can pick their own area to volunteer. Sue cutter said the phone is nerve-wracking but team leaders always help. Jim K. said at the FP they always give food the first time, then check out the client’s story.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM. **Next monthly meeting is January 9, 2017 in Delaney Hall**.

Marilyn Janus,

Conference Secretary