Saint Ann Council, Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date June 12, 2017

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| Next meeting: |  |   |
| Formation |  | June 26 in Delaney Hall at 6:30 PM  |
| Business |  | July 6 in Delaney Hall at 9:30 AM |

President Mike Farrar convened the meeting at approximately 9:30 AM.

## Serving in Hope

Deacon Jack introduced a spiritual formation program titled **Serving in Hope**, via a video titled “Vincentian Vocation”. The program, including additional videos and participant handbooks was acquired for the use of our Council, and will be utilized at our next formation meeting on June 26. Member donations to defray the cost are appreciated.

## Newcomers

Five new members introduced themselves and received welcome packets from Tish Galu.

## Review of Previous Minutes

The previous minutes from the May 16 meeting were approved, with the following changes:

### “Team 4” in the NC Team Reports item should read “all NC Teams”.

### Mike Galu should not be included in the list of spreadsheet volunteers in the *Treasurer* item.

## Treasurer’s Report

### The checking account has a current balance of approximately $31,000. This includes net income of $8,500, balanced against expenditures of $3,400.

#### The Council received a grant of $1,000 from the Bethany Beach Landowners Association.

#### The St. Ann Men’s Club provided a donation of $1,500 to the Council.

#### $1,691 of the current balance is earmarked for administrative expenses.

### The current balance of the Council savings account is $20,000.

### Joe Lane presented the VIC (Very Important Charities) Dinner goal, to return the proceeds of the evening to several parish charities. Approximately 50% of the donation amount will be directed to our local Council.

### Mike Farrar noted a discussion item for future consideration: In light of the current finances, should we either (a) raise the guideline for assistance (currently $200), or (b) decrease the period between individual instances of assistance (currently 6 months) given to an individual? This will be an agenda item at a future business meeting.

## Succession Planning

Two volunteers, Dan DiLuzio and Susan Lewis were introduced for the positions of Council Secretary and Council Co-Treasurer, respectively. Both provided brief personal introductions to the Council members, were formally nominated, and voted and approved to those positions.

### Susan Lewis suggested a background check should be performed for anyone with responsibility for the care of distribution of Council funds. This is ab open action item for the Council leadership.

## Team Reports

### Food Pantry Team - Mike Galu presented the Food Pantry report: During the preceding month, the Food Pantry teams provided 63 bags of food to 34 separate families, comprised of 142 of our neighbors.

#### The Food Pantry was open for the first time during the evening on June 8. Nineteen bags of food were distributed to nine neighbor families, with a total of 42 family members.

The evening hours will be changed to 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM, so as to not interfere with the most common meal time of the neighbors we serve.

#### A suggestion was made that we preferentially collect/recommend low sodium food products in the pantry; and that we recommend that donations of beans, one of our staples, consist of bagged dried beans, rather than canned.

### Neighbor Contact Team - reports were unavailable at the time of the meeting. Subsequent to the meeting Tish Galu provided the following update for the period from May 1 through May 28:

Total Neighbor families contacted – 22, containing 48 individuals

$3057.75 was distributed for rent and electric

Four home visits were initiated

### Garden Team – Mike Galu reported that the garden has been planted and will be ready to provide fresh vegetables this summer.

#### We’ve identified a volunteer with a pick-up truck who is willing to help with delivery of garden materials, when necessary.

#### A water reservoir/tank is installed and being used. Mike and John Baywood have discussed the possibility of adding a pump to provide pressure.

#### A future project will include a tool shed. The feasibility of using the shed (roof) to collect rain water for the garden was discussed; some research as to safety issues with the quality of the runoff water is necessary.

### Furniture Team – Mary Ellen Gonski requested that the team provide a list of furniture distributed, along with an estimate of its value, for record keeping purposes.

### Long-Term Care Team – Tish Galu discussed one individual, who had previously been on our watch list, but who has now been diagnosed with leukemia. A brief home visit was performed.

## Succession Planning

Mike Farrar again requested the individual members consider volunteering for the position of Vice President, with the assumption that the selected individual would “graduate” to the position of Council President, to provide a smoot leadership transition.

## Miscellaneous Items

### We received a call from a neighbor whom we had previously assisted, who is now facing eviction. Tish Galu is working on assembling a financial package to forestall this, in cooperation with the Salvation Army and the Christian Storehouse. The Council, by voice vote, approved the one-time allocation of $500 in support of this.

### Mike Farrar commented on the current Resource Guide, and thanked Tish Galu, Myra Stock, and Eileen Quigley for the extensive guide that they have assembled for the Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.