Saint Ann Council, Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date September 11, 2017

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| Next meeting: |  |  |
| Formation |  | Wednesday, September 27 at 4:00 PM in St. Ann Church |
| Regular |  | Monday, September 11 at 9:30 AM in Delaney Hall |

President Mike Farrar convened the meeting at 9:35 AM.

## Call to Order; Opening Prayer; Meeting Structure

Deacon Jack Freebery presided over the opening prayer.

## Spiritual Formation

Deacon Jack introduced a new module in the *Serving in Hope* formation program; the second module, titled “Our Vincentian Spirituality. Members were encouraged to read Session 2.1, “Vincentian Charism” in preparation for discussion at our next formation meeting. If there is not time at our next gathering on September 27, then it will be deferred to the formation meeting in October that follow that one.

## President’s Remarks

Mike Farrar commented that, as a result of the last officer/team lead meeting, some changes were being made to the agenda, to conform more closely to the needs of the Council. Mike reviewed the new agenda, pointing out the addition or alterations of sections 10 (Reports of Special or Unusual Activity), 11 (Suggestions for Expanded or Ad Hoc Activities), and 12 (Other Business/Questions). Regarding sections 11 and 12, we will attempt to reserve time at the end of the meeting for those discussions.

## New Members

Deacon Rich Juliano and Helen Juliano, Terry Twardesky, Pat Hanley, and Marianne Decker introduced themselves as new members.

## Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded, and carried with no exceptions.

## Membership Roster Review

### Dan DiLuzio gave a brief status: We are attempting to update the national registry; since this requires the street address of each member, those addresses that are documented will be entered into our local roster first. Any members for whom we are missing an address will be contacted for that information via email.

### At the same time, members who appear to be inactive will be asked whether or not they would like to remain associated with the Council, and in what capacity: Active, Associate, or Contributing (per the description under Statute 3 of the Statutes of the National Council of the Rule)

## Treasurer’s Report

### The balance in the checking account currently stands at approximately $26,500, with $3,700 in collections during the previous month and $3,900 in expenditures. This does not include the $20,000 bequest that was made to the Council.

### After a short discussion regarding Vincentian disaster relief activities / requests for assistance, it was decided to donate $5,000 to the national organization, to assist with hurricane relief efforts. The Men’s Club had already approved a donation of $500, to be donated for the same cause through our Council.

### Regarding the bequest, a point was raised that it should be used to honor the benefactor locally, rather than used for regional or national contributions.

### Per Mike Farrar, every two months or so we receive a request from the Wilmington Council to assist with larger grants to various charitable causes within the diocese. We will participate in these requests through a donation of $200 from the St. Ann Council, at the discretion of the President. There were no objections raised by the members.

### Mary Ellen Gonski reported that audit materials had been presented to Wilmington. To date there was no response, although we are particularly interested in whether or not some of our local procedures may be unnecessary for audit compliance.

## Financial Team Report

There was no report from the Financial Team regarding fund raising. Joe Lane is currently recovering from an illness and could not attend.

## Spiritual Formation/Enhancement Team Report

### Continuing Study of Spiritual Formation Modules: It was reiterated that spiritual formation is included in both of our monthly meetings, but will remain the focus of the second monthly meeting.

### Meeting/Celebration Plans for St. Vincent Feast Day (Wed. PM Sept. 27): General plan is to have a 4:00 PM mass celebration, with music and cantor. Following the liturgy, Council officers will be asked to make a formal commitment to the membership, and the entire conference will be asked to recommit to its Vincentian mission. Afterwards a social gathering with pizza will be held in Delaney Hall. Members and families are invited. A count of members and family members who plan to attend should be sent to Dan DiLuzio via email on or before the 20th, to allow time to place the food order; there will be a nominal charge of $5 per person to defray the costs.

### Parallel Wilmington Council Celebration Plans (Dover, Sun. Sept. 24): A separate celebration under the auspices of the Wilmington diocesan Council will be held on the 24th at the Church of the Holy Cross in Dover. This includes mass, followed by a dinner. There is a charge of $25 per person for all attendees, but anyone wishing to attend must contact Mary Ann Conlon today, the 11th, to confirm.

* 1. *A View from the Vincentian National Conference*:   
     Mary Ann Conlon attended the conference and reported on the general session, as well as several breakouts, including sessions on diversity and the Latino population and a presentation on Frederic Ozanam by one of his biographers. During the entire conference, spirituality was clearly a main focus. Camaraderie was always evident. Mary Ann pointed out that there was currently no representation from Delaware on the National Disaster Committee, which coordinates with local parishes, FEMA, the Red Cross and other agencies during the time of a national disaster like Hurricane Irma. Mary Ann also noted that we can apply for a grant from the National Voice of the Poor Committee, and also described the food bank coordination performed by Feed America.

## Reports of Special or Unusual Activity

### Regular reports of the Neighbor Contact and Food Pantry teams are attached.

### The school supplies project provided supplies to 48 children in our area. Thanks to all who donated and/or assisted in other ways.

### The Extended Care team was able to assist one neighbor with three grandchildren and a husband who is seriously ill, including advising her on medications and housing. Based on that assistance and on previous assistance which she received, she remarked that SVdP had “helped to change my life”.

### The members of the local Ministerium are very supportive of our work and will assist us, including directing us to available resources.

### One of our neighbors has a need for a queen-size mattress; contact Mike Galu with any leads.

## Suggestions for Expanded or Ad Hoc Activities

Jack Freebery addressed recent requests for respite care for full-time caregivers be addressed via an ad hoc committee to investigate the feasibility and possible addition to our Council’s services.

Jack also suggested a committee be formed to investigate recruitment among the youth and the Latino members of our parish.

Ron Forgnoni will look into food storage and coordination with other Ministerium members.

Vince Bertone presented information on a possible fund raiser involving the sale of Christmas cards. The vendor (The Printery House) requires no money up front and guarantees 50% of the proceeds to the sponsoring organization. In Joe Lane’s absence, Jackie Boyd will act as point person for the Financial Team.

## Other Business/Questions

A sign-up sheet for volunteers for the Giving Tree holiday charity was made available.

Rosemary Wlaschin has been involved in the past with the USO Wish List effort. This year’s program will run from 9/11 through 10/16; contributions can be delivered in Delaney Hall from 9 AM to 2 PM daily.

Salt and Light is a parish organization that focuses on systemic change in the lives of the needy. It is meeting on Friday 9/15.

## Next Meeting Dates:

Mass and fellowship – Feast of StVdeP, Wed., Sept. 27, 4:00 PM

Regular monthly – Monday, October 9, 9:30 AM, Delaney Hall

## Closing Prayer; Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.

Liz Salonick and I put together the Neighbor Team Report for August 21‐9/18/17. It was a fairly light month.

Total no. contacts = 15

Total No. of Living in Households helped = 23

No. of Home Visits 3 with 5 pending

Amt. of Dollars: $1705.02

for rent, motel, electric and propane

Report is in the folder if needed.

Peace, Tish Galu

**11 Sept 2017**

**SVdP Food Pantry Business Meeting Summary**

**St. Ann’s Conference**

# **Report Summary from 8/17 (Team 4) through 9/7 (Team 3)**

# **TEAM DATE # OF BAGS GIVEN # OF FAMILIES HELPED # OF FAMILY MEMBERS FOOD EXPENSES**

Team 3 8/10/17 - - - $201.14

Team 4 8/17/17 12 06 24 $320.27

Team 1 8/24/17 12 06 22 $162.00

Team 2 8/31/17 12 06 25 $285.48

Team 3 9/07/17 15 12 22 $--

# TOTALS 51 30 93 $968.89

From the August 2017 Food Pantry Donations Report: We had donations estimated at $696.70. In August, we logged 102 volunteer hours ISO Food Pantry operations and volunteers drove 488 miles. Team 3 shopping amount from their 10 August pantry was not included in last month’s report, bags/families/# of family members was included in the August Business Meeting Summary. Team 3 has not shopped yet after their 9/7 pantry, their shopping will be reported next month. This report includes bags/families/family members associated with home visits.

It has been decided to continue the evening pantry from November through April of next year. It will continue to be held on the second Thursday of each of those months and the hours of operation will be 3:30 until 5 PM.

R/Ron Forgnoni