Saint Ann Conference, Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date June 12, 2018

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| Next meeting: |  |  |
| Formation |  | Monday July 9 at 9:30 AM in Delaney Hall |
| Regular |  | Monday, June 25 at 7:15 PM in Delaney Hall |

1. **Opening**

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

Deacon Jack Freebery presided over the opening prayer.

1. **President’s Remarks**
   1. Mike Farrar commented that, although we have one of the largest memberships in the diocese, out meeting attendance is not commensurate with the number of members. All members are encouraged to attend all meetings, in order to best participate in the life of the conference and to support their fellow Vincentians.
   2. We will be surveying members determine which meeting days and times are most convenient for the membership.
   3. We will be taking another look at the Extended Care effort soon. The issue was raised that, although extended care is a real need, we should evaluate how well a separate team meets that need.
   4. Mike raised the possibility of using the July 23 meeting slot for an off-site social event, since the bazaar team will be setting up Delaney by then.
   5. Mike drew attention to a recent contribution to our Conference by the Men’s Club, and to a contribution from the Knights of Columbus just received this morning.
2. **Welcome to Newcomers**

Three newcomers were welcomed:

Judy Noord

Esther Scerbo

Patti O’Neill

1. **Spiritual Formation** 
   1. The Spiritual Formation team will be planning a prayer service or other appropriate gathering for the upcoming feast days of St. Vincent de Paul and Bl. Frederic Ozanam. More to follow.
   2. Deacon Jack Freebery finished Section 3.6 of the *Serving in Hope* program, titled “Vision of Charity.” Module 3 is now completed, and we will begin module 4 at our next meeting.
2. **Approval of Minutes**
   1. Minutes of the April meeting were approved by a voice vote.
   2. Dan DiLuzio reported that we are beginning to clean up our membership roster, removing inactive members.
   3. Succession planning for the secretary position is underway. That position’s current responsibilities may be split between a Membership Secretary and a Correspondence Secretary. Volunteers for a either position are actively sought.
3. **Treasurer’s Report and succession planning**
   1. For the preceding month revenues were double our expenditures. Current balance is approximately $35K.
   2. Helen Simmons has agreed to take Susan Lewis’s position as one of the treasurers. A second person is still needed for the other treasurer position.
4. **Financial Team Report** 
   1. The Bethany Blues fund raiser netted $477 and we received an additional $807 from the Northeast Seafood evening.
   2. We are tentatively planning a DiFebo’s evening in the fall..
   3. Members are reminded that the VIC evening in October is a big fundraiser; SVdP in the past has received 2/3 of the proceeds. Joe Lane still has tickets for sale.
5. **Food Pantry, Neighbor Contact and Long-Term Follow-up Teams**

Reports Attached to Agenda

* 1. Ron Forgnoni reported that the shelves in the food pantry will be reinforced with plywood/lauan ti provide better support.

1. **Reports of Other Teams**

The Garden team has the garden in full production and has already started harvesting some of the leafy vegetables that were planted.

1. **Upcoming Special Vincentian Events**

* The Eastern Regional Meeting will be in Emmitsburg, MD on June 22-23.

1. **Suggestions for and Discussion of Expanded Vincentian Activities**
   1. Mary Ellen Gonski suggested that we consider funding a scholarship program. The idea will be taken up at the next leadership meeting.
2. **Information About non-Vincentian Charitable Programs** 
   1. The 30th annual Sussex CROP Walk for Hunger will be held in Bethany on Sunday October 14. This event is held locally throughout the nation to help end hunger at home and around the world. The Sussex walk brings together several area churches to raise funds for the cause, and is sponsored by the Ministerium.
   2. Lenore has not received a return call from the contact person for the summer school children lunch program. Apparently that individual had some serious health problems that sidelined her, at least temporarily.
   3. Members are advised that the Knights of Columbus will be holding their Tootsie Roll campaign, for the benefit of our intellectually challenged neighbors. In September they are holding a lobster fest to help fund a scholarship program for MBS.
   4. The Southern Delaware Educational Foundation (SDEF) is holding a movie night on 10/30 at the Clayton Theater for assisting aspiring students with their education expenses.
   5. The Journey is a 6 week parish renewal program that is sponsored by St. Ann parish. The intention is to provide an opportunity to deepen one’s relationship with Jesus through a series of small group gatherings. Dan DiLuzio pointed out that, with our focus on encountering Christ in the poor, we Vincentians would both benefit from the program and be powerful witnesses in it. Some registration forms were provided, and more will be made available. More information is available on the parish web site at <https://www.stannbb.org/evangelization/> .
3. **Next Meeting Dates**

See above.

Our next meeting is on June 25 at 7:15 PM.

Subsequent meetings will be held on:

Monday, July 9 – 9:30 AM in Delaney Hall

Monday, July 23? – Possible off-site (pre-bazaar space conflict)

*Tuesday*, August 14 – 9:30 AM in Delaney Hall (Blood Bank Monday)

1. **Closing Prayer; Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 AM.