Saint Ann Conference, Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date January 8, 2019

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| Next meeting: |  |  |
| Leaders |  | Tuesday January 22 at 2:00 PM in Delaney Hall |
| Formation |  | Tuesday, January 22 at 3:30 PM in Delaney Hall |
| Regular |  | Tuesday, February 12 at 9:30 AM in Delaney Hall |

1. **Call to Order; Opening Prayer**

President Tish Galu convened the meeting at 9:35 AM.

Deacon Jack Freebery presided over the opening prayer.

1. **Welcome to Newcomers**

Five newcomers were present and introduced themselves to the membership.

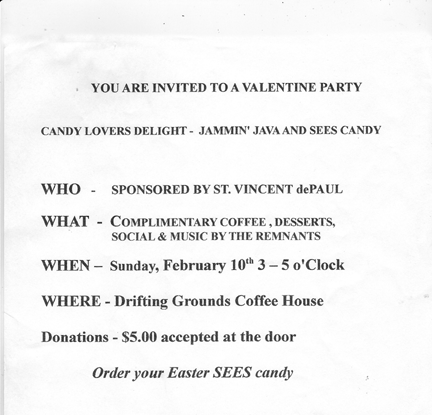
1. **Approval of Minutes and Membership Update**
   1. The members present approved the minutes of the December meeting by a voice vote.
2. **Treasurer’s Report and succession planning**
   1. The Treasurer’s report was attached to the agenda. Helen Simmons shared a few notes of gratitude that were attached to the previous month’s contributions.
   2. Mike Farrar and Carol Curran were introduced as our conference vice presidents. They, along with Helen Simmons, Susan Lewis, and Tish Galu will have authority to issue checks on behalf of the St. Ann Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.
3. **Food Pantry, Neighbor Contact and Extended Care Teams**
4. Reports attached to agenda
5. The Extended Care team will meet immediately after this meeting to plan a date to meet.
6. A neighbor requiring transportation was the recipient of the car that was recently donated. She had been relying on a bike to get to and from work, grocery shopping, food pantry, and so forth; this became problematical with the cold weather. The car was a “life altering” gift.
7. **Garden and Furniture Team Reports**
8. The garden fencing project is nearing completion, including two access gates. Mike Galu will purchase the remaining necessary lumber, thanks to a gift from the parish Men’s Club.
9. The Furniture Team helped a neighbor on extended care move from a two bedroom apartment to one with four bedrooms; she had had three children and over the summer gave birth to twins. A donation of bunk beds ensured that everyone had sleeping arrangements provided.
10. **Other Contributions and Feedback**
11. A total of 68 families and over 120 children were served by our last Giving Tree program. Extra grocery cards that were collected are in the case with the phone, to be used as needed.
12. We will hold our second “Jammin’ Java” Valentine’s fundraiser on February 10 at Drifting Grounds, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. As in the past, Sees Easter candy can be ordered then. Members will be asked to donate baked goods for the gathering; Drifting Grounds will donate tea and coffee. A $5 donation will be requested at the door. See Attachment 1
13. **President’s Remarks / Small group meetings**
    1. 10-15 minutes were set aside for each of the Pantry and Contact teams to meet with their members, for purposes of information sharing and planning. This may become a standard agenda item in the future.
14. **Spiritual Formation**
15. Deacon Jack Freebery introduced our discussion of module 5.3 of the *Serving in Hope* program in the “Our Vincentian Rule” booklet. Jack reminded us that our primary role in the Society is to grow in holiness, through the practice of our Vincentian vocation.
16. More prayer sheets and *Serving in Hope* booklets have been ordered to meet the needs of our growing membership.
17. Rosemary Wlaschin addressed the members re the cultivation of our personal spirituality, beyond our regular work with *Serving in Hope*. She suggested that we should be open to sharing our personal reflections, prayers, and meditations as a way of assisting the entire membership to a deeper spirituality.  
      
    As an example she offered a meditation from The Word Among Us (January 2), a reflection on 1 John 2:22-28 (Attachment 2)

1. **Connections with Pyle**
   1. Pat and Karen from the Pyle Center will attend our next meeting on January 22.
2. **Information About non-Vincentian Charitable Programs**
3. At 6:30 PM on January 22 there will be a prayer service at St. Ann church sponsored by the Ministerium for the cause of Christian unity. A reception will follow.
4. As part of a local Health Fair in April, a blood drive will be held on Saturday April 6. Members can sign up in the back.
5. At the end of January, Sussex County will be holding a point-in-time census of the homeless in the county, coordinated with both the Pyle Center and the Housing Alliance. Volunteers are needed for 1/30-1/31.
6. The St. Ann Knights of Columbus will host a Spaghetti Dinner, beginning at 4:00 PM on January 20. This fundraiser will help them raise monies that are contributed to local groups for the betterment of the community; SVdP has been a beneficiary of part of the $10K that the KoC donated last year. They will also be holding a Valentine Day dinner on 2/16.
7. **Next Meeting Dates**

See above.

1. **Closing Prayer; Adjournment**
2. The meeting was closed with prayer at 10:34 AM.

Note: The Food Pantry report that was sent to the members inadvertently transposed two numbers; the corrected pantry report is Attachment 3.

**Attachment 1**

**Attachment 2**



**Attachment 3**

SVdP Team Reports

January 8 Meeting

Pantry (Corrected)

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| **Food Pantry** | |  |  |  |  |  | |  | |  |
| Team | Start date | # bags given | # families helped | # family members | $ Expenses | | Notes | | Hours | Mileage |
| 4 | 6-Dec | 30 | 15 | 65 | $455.87 | |  | |  |  |
| 1 | 13-Dec | 28 | 14 | 62 | $1,050.00 | |  | |  |  |
| 2 | 20-Dec | 12 | **23** | **54** | $239.63 | |  | |  |  |
| 3 | 27-Dec | 0 | 0 | 0 | $0.00 | |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  | |  |  |
| Totals |  | 70 | **52** | **181** | $ 1,745.50 | |  | | 212 | 521 |

Corrections are **highlighted**