SVDP Conference of St. Ann’s Church, Bethany Beach, DE, Minutes

 October 26, 2015

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Sign in Sheet

 Opening prayer

Welcome new members

Secretary’s report, Jackie Boyd-the minutes were approved

Treasurer’s report, Eileen-$5,861.95 is the balance of the October report. A special thanks to the VIC dance group that gave us $3,632.62!

President’s report, Mike-According to the Rule of St. Vincent de Paul, Vincentians should provide an encouraging atmosphere to use our talents and express our concerns. For example-how do we pack a bag? We need someone to write up an example of how to pack a grocery bag for the food pantry.

 We need to remember when we are in a bad situation-don’t look to the past-see where you want to go and figure out how you can get there. We have a lot of activity with the food pantry and the cell phone. We need to have written directions so everyone can look through the directions and be able to operate with a plan. Mike stated that the first priority of the SVdP society is to visit the poor and somehow we have lost sight of that. He asked for a vote on the priority of visiting the poor and the measure was approved. Mike had set up a meeting with Don Doyle to discuss how to funnel the phone calls to the rectory to the cell phone.

Mike asked for volunteers transfer food like spaghetti, cereal, rice, pancake mix etc. to plastic bins. People volunteered to go to the food pantry and do this task. We will thank them in the next minutes.

 Tom Fallon and Gene Speicher gave some touching examples of visiting clients, and their desperate needs and circumstances. It was decided that the person who has the cell phone can’t always consult with his/her team. The person with the phone is in a critical spot and they sometimes need to make a split second decision and they have the authority to do that. If time allows consult with team or officers of the conference, especially the treasurers when dealing with a larger amount. The person with the cell phone can write a check or give a receipt from the utility or bill person and be reimbursed by the treasurer.

We need to have a resource list available to the teams for food pantry duty and for home visits. Eileen mentioned that Frank Walder would shadow or train Vincentians for home visits.

We found out that the Pyle Center will not pay a current electric bill and if the electricity is cut off it is very difficult to get it turned back on. We decided to have the phone person decide if he/she needs to consult or make a decision on your own. You can tell the client that you will check on the situation and call them back in a reasonable amount of time. You can also switch with members of your team if you cannot man the phone. We need everything written up and to have a simple cheat sheet, a phone tutorial and a procedure to follow for home visits. Gary Bauer is setting up a schedule for teams. Caz is meeting with the Captains. Each team will take a turn from Tuesday to Tuesday with the food pantry and the cell phone. Sometimes the bags for the food pantry need to be reinforced with a plastic bag or double bagged if it is heavy. Leave a message on the clipboard at the food pantry for the purchasing team so they know what to buy and what is not moving. Bags should not be on the floor only on the table.

Dan DiLuzio sent me an email about the password for our website. First you go to public page of St. Ann’s and you select ministries on the left menu and select Social Concerns. On the Social Concerns page scroll down to St. Vincent de Paul page. On the bottom of the public page is a highlighted link which will take you to the “Members Only” section. Click on that link and you will be taken to a password page, enter the password: svdpbethany. You can go directly to the SVdP Page by typing into the web browser address bar-http://www.stannbb.org/st-vincent-depaul/. The address for the Members page is the following- <http://www.stannbb.org/svdp-members-page/> The password will change on a regular basis(every 60 days);the new password will be posted in the meeting minutes.

Our next meeting will be Monday November 9, 2015 at 9:30 am, in the Masterson Center.

Closing Prayer

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jackie Boyd, secretary.