Saint Ann Conference, Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date December 13, 2022

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| Next meeting: |  | Tuesday, January 10 at 9:30 AM in Delaney Hall Tuesday, January 24 at 3:30 PM in Delaney Hall |

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

President Carol Curran convened the meeting at 9:30 AM. Mary Ann Conlon led the attendees in the opening prayer.

1. **Welcome**

Carol reminded members of our primary purpose: To grow in holiness through our service to our neighbors.

1. **Updates**
   1. **Food Pantry**
      1. Tom Hill informed the members that Save A Lot in Millsboro has closed its doors. The Pantry team has selected the Food Lion in Fenwick as an alternative, and they were thrilled to be asked.
      2. Millsboro Dollar Tree is still in play
      3. There are currently 18 people on the pickup team
      4. During the holiday season, we have received numerous donations from other organizations, including Seagrove, The Estuary, Bethany Beach Fire, St. Ann CCD, and South Coastal Library; I addition to the Knights of Columbus coat drive that was distributed at the pantry.
   2. **Garden Team**
      1. The garden has been put to bed for the season
      2. Plans for DOUBLING the size of the existing growing area are in progress; additional post-and-rail fencing will be installed.
   3. **Neighbor Contact Team** 
      1. Training has finished, but we are looking at having additional training either separately or in conjunction with our regular meetings
   4. **Visiting Vincentians**
      1. Still looking for any additional clients. If none appear, we may simply increase our number of regularly scheduled visits.
      2. Brandywine is extremely pleased with our involvement with their residents, and expressed their thanks.
   5. **Fund Raising** 
      1. Souper Bowl party and 50-50 are planned for February 11, between 5 and 8. Tickets are $100/couple, including a $25 square on the Super Bowl pool board. Lorraine Jordin will be sending out requests for assistance and additional instructions.
   6. **Building Plans**
      1. The building committee met with Miken to discuss our requirements; everything we requested was doable.
      2. Ballpark estimate for the construction is between $350K and $500K, but Miken will give us a quote after the first of the year.
      3. A question re naming rights was raised and will be researched.
   7. **Giving Tree**
      1. Final numbers receiving our support came to over 200 families; we had originally planned for 146 families (350 kids); the rest were walk-ins.
2. **Spirituality – Reflection**

Mary Ann led the group reflection and small group discussions.

1. **President’s Remarks**

Housing issues continue to be a concern.

* 1. A men’s shelter has opened in Lewes, managed by St. Jude. They are working with additional groups, trying to get involvement from other SVdP conferences in the area.
  2. Working with Sr. Loretta; the Ministerium does have an emergency fund that Pyle can draw upon.
  3. No one can get approval for affordable housing in the area. This, despite the fact that we know that there are people living in their cars or in tents in the woods.
  4. Habitat has funding and is building 9 houses in the area, but these are already allotted to families.
  5. Those who are homeless and actively looking for employment need to provide an official address when applying for a job; Pyle, First State, and the Rehoboth Community Center all make their addresses available for that purpose.

1. **Questions?**
2. **Upcoming Meetings**

Jan. 9 – Team 2, Food Pantry 1/12 3:00 to 5:00 PM, Regular Meeting 1/10 @ 9:30 AM

Jan. 16 - Team 3, Food Pantry 1/19

Jan. 23 – Team 4, Food Pantry 1/26, Regular Meeting 1/24 @ 3:30 PM

Jan. 30 – Team 1, Food Pantry 2/2

Feb. 6 – Team 2, Food Pantry 2/9 3:00-5:00 PM

Feb. 13 – Team 3, Food Pantry 2/16, Regular Meeting 2/14 @ 9:30 AM

Feb, 20 – Team 4, Food Pantry 2/23

Feb, 27 – Team 1, Food Pantry 3/2, Regular Meeting 2/28 @ 3:30 PM

Mar, 6 – Team 4, Food Pantry 3/9, 3:00-5;00 PM

Mar,13 – Team 1, Food Pantry 3/16, Regular Meeting 3/14 @ 9:30 AM

Mar. 20 – Team 2, Food Pantry 3/23

Mar, 27 – Team 3, Food Pantry 3/30, Regular Meeting 3/28 @ 3:30 PM

1. **Closing Prayer; Adjournment**