Saint Ann Conference, Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date February 14, 2023

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| Next meeting: |  | Tuesday, February 28 at 3:30 PM in Delaney HallTuesday, March 14 at 9:30 AM in Delaney Hall |

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

President Carol Curran convened the meeting at 9:34 AM. Mary Ann Conlon led the attendees in the opening prayer.

1. **Welcome**

Carol welcomed 5 new members to the conference.

1. **Financials**

Beginning Balance Checking Account 12/31/22 53,998

 Revenues 29,750

 Expenses 28,013.

Ending Balance Checking Account 1/31/23 55,735

* 1. Expenses above include 21K in food and 9.5K in gift cards
	2. Deb McCandless gave a short explanation of twinning.
1. **Updates**
	1. **Food Pantry**
		1. In addition to the overall higher prices we are seeing, we are having problems with the availability of some items, especially paper towels and toilet tissue.
		2. Tom Hill will recalculate our estimate of $25/bag of groceries that we are using for reporting purposes.
		3. We are re-registering each person who avails themselves of the pantry, to clean up some of the files; this will be done in person only. Each family will also receive an id card.
		4. We served 108 neighbor families the first week of the month.
		5. We’ve registered an additional 40-50 new families in the last few months; the increase may be the result of the closing of the Selbyville pantry. We’re now at around 300 families.
	2. **Neighbor Contact Team**
		1. Lack of affordable housing remains an issue.
		2. Sussex County Housing Authority is planning a “poverty simulation” at three different locations, to highlight the disparity between income and cost of living and price of housing in the county.
		3. It’s becoming clear to some local governments that one of the reasons for the difficulty in finding job applicants for our service industries is the cost of housing: workers can’t afford to live close to their jobs in the area. This affects municipal services as well, such as fire, police, and so forth.
		4. We are beginning to plan for our “Let Us Break Bread Together” event. We’ll have a volunteers meeting on February 23 at 10:00 AM, followed by a meeting with Fr. Klevence at 11:00.
	3. **Fund Raising**
		1. The Souper Bowl Party realized about $6,000 in net revenue; additional donations (for example, pool winners donating their winnings) are still coming in. Thanks to all ho contributed time - and soup!
		2. Mike Galu is starting a party service, open to all; price is $100 per event, proceeds to be donated to the conference
	4. **Extended Care**
		1. One of our neighbors being assisted by the team needs help with the installation of a toilet; she is also looking for a washing machine.
	5. **Visiting Vincentians**
		1. Visits to Brandywine have been curtailed due to a COVID outbreak.
	6. **Garden Team**
		1. First work session will be Monday February 20 at 9:00 AM.
2. **Spirituality – Reflection**

Mary Ann led the group reflection and small group discussions, contrasting how each member felt at first when joining the group, and how their service has transformed them.

1. **Upcoming Events**

Feb, 20 – Team 4, Food Pantry 2/23

Feb, 27 – Team 1, Food Pantry 3/2, Regular Meeting 2/28 @ 3:30 PM Ozanam Orientation, Seaford, Saturday March 5 @ 2:00 PM

Mar, 6 – Team 2, Food Pantry 3/9, 3:00-5;00 PM

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

Mar. 20 – Team 4, Food Pantry 3/23; Ozanam Orientation, Wednesday 3/22 @

1:30 PM DH

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

Apr 3 – Team 2, Food Pantry 4/6

Apr. 10 – Team 3, Food Pantry 4/13, 3:00-5;00 PM. Regular Meeting 4/11 @ 9:30 AM

Apr. 17 – Team 4, Food Pantry 4/20

Apr. 24 – Team 1, Food Pantry 4/27, Regular Meeting 4/25, 3:30 PM

May 1 – Team 2, Food Pantry 5/4

May 8 – Team 3, Food Pantry 5.11 @ 3-5 PM, Regular Meeting 5/9 @ 9:30 AM

May 15 – Team 4, Food Pantry 6 18

May 22 – Team 1, Food Pantry 5/25, Regular Meeting 5?23 @ 3:30 PM

May 29 = Team 2, Food Pantry 6/1

1. **Closing Prayer; Adjournment**