Saint Ann Conference, Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date April 11, 2023

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| Next meeting: |  | Tuesday, April 25 at 3:30PM in Delaney Hall |
|  |  | Tuesday, May 9 at 9:30 AM in Delaney Hall |

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

President Carol Curran convened the meeting at 9:35 AM.

1. **Welcome**

Carol welcomed 3 new members to the conference. All member attendees were asked to introduce themselves to the other attendees.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Last minutes were approved by a voice vote.

1. **Updates**
   1. **Food Pantry**
      1. Tom Hill acknowledged contributions from the CHEER center
      2. Thank you to members of the parish Religious Education program, who made and donated prayer cards, which were bagged with groceries at the pantry.
      3. Tom noted that we will probably need additional volunteers at the weekly pantry, now that the garden has started up.
      4. The parish Youth Group will be assisting with the garden work, on days that alternate with the regular team.
      5. The re-registration process has helped us to quickly identify neighbors who we serve at the pantry; this has made the entire process much easier.
      6. We will be actively assisting those who cannot be physically present for re-registration.
   2. **Garden Team**
      1. Members are urged to visit the garden on off-hours. The statue of Our Lady and the surrounding area has been cleaned up. And chairs are available for those who wish to sit and pray, contemplate, or just enjoy the quiet.
      2. In May we will start our mini-farmers-market in the lower parking lot on Thursdays during the regular pantry hours.
   3. **Neighbor Contact Team** 
      1. There will be a meeting at St. Jude on May 13, focusing on homelessness. Representatives from various groups concerned with housing have been invited,
         1. Housing has become an issue with for-profit businesses as well; for example, four restaurant groups (including SoDel and Finns) have been forced to acquire local housing for their employees. They will be petitioning the Sussex Council to address this issue more vigorously.
   4. **Visiting Vincentians**
      1. There is a natural turn-over among those of our neighbors who are served by the Visiting Vincentians: illness, moves, and (unfortunately) deaths. Peg has asked the members to let her know if they encounter a neighbor wh might benefit from a regular visit.
   5. **Extended Care**
      1. Ruth Ann’s situation is in progress, with cleanup and repairs underway.
      2. Kathleen blessedly has won a sizable amount from the lottery, which will help her situation.
   6. **Building plans**
      1. We’re still waiting for a quote from Miken,
2. **Spirituality – Reflection**

This meetings reflection centered around the gospel reading for Easter. We discussed and shared our thoughts on the following: “Is our prayer life filled with repeated acts of love and abandonment to God? How do we “see and believe” as we live our life today?”

1. **President’s Remarks**
   1. **Reminder:** Our annual recommitment ceremony will be held on April 22 at the 5:30 PM mass
   2. Plans for the Breaking Bread gathering with our neighbors are moving forward. Flyers are being distributed to them at the pantry and when we visit.
   3. United Way will be running another poverty simulation at DelTech at 2:00 PM on May 25.
   4. The pallet homes project in Georgetown is showing some success: 6 people have been placed in jobs, and 2 will be moving to actual homes. There have been fewer calls to emergency services since the project began as well.
   5. Mike Galu has met with Alexis to arrange for SVdP to assist with furniture pickups and deliveries for the bazaar.
   6. List of requested supplies for the school supplies project is being assembled, based on school/grade requirements.
   7. Upcoming events

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**

**Attachment (by popular request): “The Layman’s 10 Commandments”**

