Saint Ann Conference, Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date April 25, 2023

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| Next meeting: |  | Tuesday, May 9 at 9:30AM in Delaney Hall |
|  |  | Tuesday, May 23 at 3:30PM in Delaney Hall |

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

Mary Ann Conlon opened the meeting at 9:34 AM.

1. **Welcome**

Carol welcomed 2 new members to the conference.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the 4/11 meeting were approved by a voice vote.

1. **Updates**
   1. **Food Pantry**
      1. Tom Hill informed attendees that the pantry team was picking up 151 cases of canned goods today. Expenditures at Food Lion alone amounted to $6,300 for the month.
      2. Tom is forming a SVdP youth group. One of the first activities, in conjunction with Mariners Bethel UMC youth ministry, will be to work with Society of St. Andrews gleaners to collect produce from local farms. In the Bible, gleaners (like Ruth and Naomi) would collect overlooked grain from the fields after the harvest which would otherwise be left to waste; the Society of St. Andrew picks, digs, or otherwise gathers food to feed the poor from farm fields after the commercial harvest.
      3. While the registration project for the pantry has been very helpful in streamlining the process, we have experienced fewer numbers at Thursday pantry hours.
   2. **Garden Team**
      1. Recent rain was much needed; we received almost an inch and a half.
      2. Ione of the benefits of re-registration: It will help us in planning what crops are most beneficial to our neighbors in the future.
   3. **Neighbor Contact Team** 
      1. There will be a meeting at St. Jude on May 13 at 9:15 AM, focusing on homelessness. Representatives from five different groups that assist with housing, rent, and utilities will attend.
      2. The Housing Alliance of Delaware is holding a Day for Housing Education Session in Dover on May 18 from 12PM to 3PM in the Delaware Legislative Hall in Dover. The purpose is to inform and hold legislators accountable for a solution to the affordable housing crisis. Currently, Sussex County’s workforce – the teachers, hospital staff, restaurant workers, law enforcement officers and more – cannot afford to live in their own communities. Online registration for the event is at <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ejoeraw807433d94&oseq=&c=&ch=> .
      3. An ordinance recently passed mandating that, in the event of eviction proceedings against a tenant, the defendant must be provided legal representation. Discussion followed re possible “scope creep” if such a mandate were to be applied to other legal matters.
      4. Proposed legislation: Currently proceeds from the transfer tax can be applied to only a very limited list of valid usages. It’s being proposed that affordable housing be added to that list.
   4. **Visiting Vincentians**
      1. Nothing to report
   5. **Extended Care**
      1. Work to address Ruth Ann’s situation is progressing.
      2. Kathleen was able to put aside a significant amount of her lottery winnings.
      3. While Catherine is no longer I our area, members are asked to pray for her, as she is still without a job.
   6. **Fund Raising**
      1. A pampered Chef fund raiser is in the works.
   7. **Building plans**
      1. We received an initial cost estimate from Miken; based on our requirements, the projected building project will cost in the area of $815K
2. **Spirituality – Reflection**

# This meeting’s reflection was a discussion and sharing of ideas surrounding the idea of stewardship, as applied to the Vincentian mission. Lorraine and Rose introduced the topic with a short video [“Trio - A Song of Stewardship”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXK4OsKXOms).

1. **President’s Remarks**
   1. We are receiving $126 back from the CROP walk, for our food pantry. The next CROP walk will be held at OLG on 10/15.
   2. Plans for the Breaking Bread gathering with our neighbors are moving forward. A sign-up sheet for members’ contributions was circulated.
   3. Carol spoke about Dan Cowell’s volunteering his home as a temporary residence for a deaf mother and daughter from Ukraine. There is a ”meet and greet” for the Ukrainian refugees currently living in Delaware at the VFW on Thursday night at 6:00PM
2. **Upcoming Events**

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| Apr. 24 | Team 1, Food Pantry 4/27, Regular Meeting 4/25, 3:30 PM |
| May 1 |  |
| May 8 | Team 3, Food Pantry 5/11, 3:00-5:00 PM, Regular Meeting 5/9 @ 9:30 AM DH |
| May 15 | Team 4, Food Pantry 5/18 |
| May 22 | Team 1, Food Pantry 2/25, Regular Meeting 5/23 @ 3:30 PM DH |
| May 29 | Team 2, Food Pantry 6/1 |
| June 5 | Team 3, Food Pantry 8 @ 3:30 PM |
| June 12 | Team 4, Food Pantry June 15, Regular Meeting June 13 @ 9:30 AM DH |
| June 16 | Breaking Bread Together at OLG 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM |
| June 19 | Team 1, Food Pantry June 22 |
| June 26 | Team 2, Food Pantry June 29, Regular Meeting @ 3:30 PM |
| July 3 | Team 3, Food Pantry July 6 |
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| July 10 | Team 4, Food Pantry July 13 3:00 to 5:00 PM |
| July 17 | Team 1, Food Pantry July 20 |
| July 24 | Team 2, Food Pantry July 27 |
| July 31 | Team 3, Food Pantry Aug. 3 |
| Aug. 7 | Team 4, Food Pantry Aug. 10 3:00-5:00 PM |
| Aug. 14 | Team 1, Food Pantry Aug. 17 |
| Aug. 21 | Team 2, Food Pantry Aug. 24; Regular Meeting Aug. 22 @ 3:30 PM DH |
| Aug. 28 | Team 3, Food Pantry Aug. 31 |

1. **Closing Prayer; Adjournment**

