Saint Ann Conference, Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date August 22, 2023

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| Next meeting: |  | Tuesday, September 12 at 9:30AM in Delaney Hall |
|  |  | Tuesday, September 26 at 3:30PM in Delaney Hall |

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

Carol opened the meeting at 3:34PM.

1. **Welcome**
   1. One new member was welcomed to the conference.
   2. Carol shared several thank you notes that were directed to our Conference.
2. **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the 6/13 meeting were approved by a voice vote.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Beginning Balance Checking Account 6/1/23 64,478.

Revenues 15,431.

Expenses 33,928.

Ending Balance Checking Account 5/31/23 45,981.

1. **Updates**
   1. Food Pantry
      1. Tom Hill reported that our gleaning program (in cooperation with the Society of St. Andrew) now has about 6 volunteers; if anyone is interested in working with this group, please see Tom.
      2. We received a request from Tiny Tots for contributions of yarn for their ongoing projects.
   2. Garden Team
      1. Steve reported that the garden is producing at the best rate thus far. So far, during this growing season, we have been able to offer one or two fresh garden items to all of our neighbors who visit us on Thursdays.
      2. Steve mentioned the need for a weed whacker, which was immediately provided on the spot! As Psalm 150 says, more or less, “Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with string trimmers and pipe!”
   3. Neighbor Contact
      1. We were peripherally involved with an unfortunate situation: A new person had called for help, and during the home visit we discovered that the residence had been raided for drugs that morning by the police. Questions arose:
         1. Can/should we contact the local police before a home visit; what privacy issues are involved?
         2. Should we Google the home address before a visit?
         3. Is Pyle screening? Should they?
         4. Can we meet in a public space, in lieu of a residence
   4. Visiting Vincentians
      1. Peg reported that we currently have 15 volunteers, covering 15 neighbors. Question as to whether we can increase our number of visits to each neighbor.
   5. Fund Raising
      1. The Pampered Chef party that Barbara McInerney hosted on 6/27 raised more than $1,000.
      2. Flyers are available for the Cornhole Tournament on 10/7, and volunteers are still needed. We also need additional boards/cornhole sets. See Mike Galu if you can help out.
   6. Building Plans
      1. We’re pausing on the construction project, for several reasons:
         1. We met with officers of our Council and determined that Fr. Klevence will have to meet with the Vicar General to review our need for the facility and our current plans.
         2. Following the meeting with the Vicar General, he will have to similarly meet with the Diocesan Building Committee, since the property we are proposing to use is owned by the Diocese. We’ll need a Letter of Agreement to build there.
         3. We’ll need to get our own EIN before proceeding, separate from the Council’s EIN that we had been using up to this point.
         4. Question rose as to whether there were any non-diocesan properties that we can use to build on. John Smart asked specifically about the old Royal Farms property in Dagsboro.
2. **Spirituality – Persuasion**

Deb McGuire presented the mission work she and others with High Tide Church had done in Hungary with the Word of Life ministry. The work was directed toward the youth; each summer 1,200 young people attend a camp 40 minutes outside of Budapest at the Andrássy Castle, which had been donated to Word of Life and serves as the base for their outreach. The concern is that only 17% of the youth in Hungary attend church services each month, as opposed to 61% in nearby Poland.

1. **President’s Remarks**
   1. Carol commented on the school supplies project, which operated much better than the last year. The one draw back was that we had to move supplies nine times over the course of the project. However, we were able to provide 165 students at four local schools with backpacks and school supplies worth $75 to $90 each.
   2. Reminder that the September annual meeting will be held on September 25 at St. John the Beloved. Jim Lutrzykowski and Joe Stiller have been nominated for the Council’s Vincentian of the Year award.
   3. Our conference will be holding a retreat on October 28; mark your calendars!
   4. Jim Lutrzykowski is stepping down from the co-lead position on Pantry team 4; Teri Roche will step in. Donna Hottinger will replace Alice Donnelly on team 3.
   5. Virginia Giuffre announced that the Beebe mobile van will have its first visit to our food pantry on Thursday the 24th; monthly after that. The van will be able to provide basic health screening, as well as vaccinations (COVID and flu). Services are free.
2. **Upcoming Events**

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| Sept. 11 | Team 1, Food Pantry 9/14 @ 3:00 PM, Regular Meeting 9/12 @ 9:30, Building Group Meeting 9/12 @ 9:30 AM Location TBD  Giving Tree Meeting after Regular Meeting |
| Sept. 18 | Team 2, Food Pantry 9/21  Sunday, September 24 Annual SVdP Conference Meeting |
| Sept. 25 | Team 3, Food Pantry 9/28  Regular Meeting 9/26 @ 3:30 PM DH  Building Group Meeting 9/26 @ 9:30 AM Location TBD  Team Leader Meeting at 2:00 PM in DH |
| Oct. 2 | Team 4, Food Pantry 10/5  Saturday, Oct. 7 Corn Hole for a Cause |
| Oct. 9 | Team 1, Food Pantry 10/12 @ 3:00 PM  Regular Meeting 10/10 @ 9:30 AM DH  Sunday, October 15 @ 2:30 PM Crop Walk |
| Oct. 16 | Team 2, Food Pantry 10/19  Ozanam Orientation on Tuesday, Oct. 17 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM |
| Oct. 23 | Team 3, Food Pantry 10/26  Regular Meeting 10/24 @ 3:30 PM in DH  Saturday, October 28 SVdP ½ Day of Recollection on Spirituality in DH |
| Oct. 30 | Team 4, Food Pantry 11/2 |
| Nov. 6 | Team 1, Food Pantry 11/9 @ 3:00 PM |
| Nov. 13 | Team 2, Food Pantry 11/16  Regular Meeting 11/14 @ 9:30 AM |
| Nov. 20 | Team 3, No Scheduled Food Pantry due to Thanksgiving 11/23 |
| Nov. 27 | Team 4, Food Pantry 11/30  Regular Meeting 11/28 @ 3:30 PM DH |
| Dec. 4 | Team 1, Food Pantry 12/7 |
| Dec. 11 | Team 2, Food Pantry 12/14 @ 3:00 PM  Regular Meeting 12/12 @ 9:30 AM |
| Dec. 18 | Team 3, Food Pantry 12/21 |
| Dec. 25 | Team 4, Food Pantry 12/28 |

1. **Closing Prayer; Adjournment**