Saint Ann Conference, Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Meeting Minutes

Date September 26, 2023

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

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

Carol opened the meeting at 3:30PM. Mary Ann Conlon led the opening prayer.

1. **Welcome**

No new members in attendance.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes of the 9/12 meeting were approved by a voice vote.

1. **Ministerium Update**

Members are reminded of the CROP Walk on October 15, and are encouraged to attend, so as to represent both our conference and our parish.

1. **Parish Council Updates**
   1. John Schilling and Skip Coale have both resigned their positions on the Council; Marty Malarkey will take over the responsibility of Council president from John.
   2. Belkis Stallings replaces Maria Colello as the parish’s lay representative on the Deanery.
   3. St. Ann Parish exceeded our diocesan commitment of $197K to the [2023 Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal](https://stannbb.org/news-events/36782/), with $235K in contributions or commitments.
2. **Updates**
   1. Food Pantry
      1. Tom Hill reported that we are currently stocking at an expected level of 160 families per month. This may be adjusted as actual numbers change; there is some concern that a government shutdown will force more families to the pantry, to bridge the gap left by a discontinuance of government aid.
      2. Based on a visit to Selbyville Middle School, we are now aware that there are some families whose children receive their only meal during the week through the school lunch program. There are 9 known families in this situatipn at the middle school. We are concerned that they may not have transportation to the food pantry. Tom proposed an optional delivery program for those families, with a trial involving those 9 families at SMS.
   2. Neighbor Contact
      1. There are three training sessions scheduled for the “Pathways to a Brighter Tomorrow” program.
      2. We have a consistent surplus in our checking account, due to donations from the parish, fund raisers, etc. We will raise the authorization amounts to the following:
         1. Self authorization raised to $500
         2. Team lead authorization, to $600
         3. Conference President, raised to $1,000
      3. We can investigate Christian Storehouse, ACTS, and Lowes as potential resources if neighbors need appliances. Lowes is able to offer a steep discount for units that have suffered cosmetic damage.
      4. Currently need beds for a 19 year old couple who are providing temporary housing for 4 children.
   3. Visiting Vincentians
      1. We’ll be giving flyers advertising our visit ministry to Meals on Wheels, for distribution to their clients.
   4. Extended Care
      1. Assisting Ruth Ann with her steps.
   5. Garden Team
      1. We’ve been able to provide/offer all of our neighbors at least 3 items of fresh produce 100% of the time since June.
   6. Building Plans
      1. Had a very good meeting with Fr. Klevence, providing a binder of information to share with the Vicar General Msgr. Hurley, for the next step in the approval process. Will need to provide additional pieces if information; i.e., number of SVdP pantries active within the diocese and number of pantries in Sussex county.
      2. Received Fr K’s approval to explore use of other non-diocesan land and/or buildings, such as Rose Ciellol or the previous Rte 113 Royal Farms location.
3. **Spirituality**

Mary Ann led the spirituality meditation, discussion, and group sharing session. Topic was our role as evangelizers of our neighbors, showing the face of Christ to those we serve.

1. **President’s Remarks**
   1. Carol will obtain the National Council presentation by John Foppe for use at a later meeting.
   2. Tom Hill is proposing a monthly newsletter, to inform members not in the practice of regular meeting attendance It was suggested that Carol write and send out a personal letter to non-attendees stressing the importance of our meetings..
   3. Connie Ryan has resigned as membership secretary for reasons of health.
   4. We will again begin “passing the bag” for meeting attendees to contribute for administrative costs. The bag will not be either purple or royal.
2. **Upcoming Events**

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| Sept. 11 | Team 1, Food Pantry 9/14 @ 3:00 PM  Regular Meeting 9/12 @ 9:30  Giving Tree Meeting after Regular Meeting |
| Sept. 18 | Team 2, Food Pantry 9/21  Sunday, September 24 Annual SVdP Conference Meeting, St. John the Beloved, Wilmington @ 2:00 PM |
| Sept. 25 | Team 3, Food Pantry 9/28  Regular Meeting 9/26 @ 3:30 PM DH  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  Giving Tree Cards Distribution at all Masses 10/28 and 29 |
| Oct. 30 | Team 4, Food Pantry 11/2  Giving Tree Cards Distribution at all Masses 11/4 and 5 |
| Nov. 6 | Team 1, Food Pantry 11/9 @ 3:00 PM  Giving Tree Cards Distribution at all Masses 11/11 and 12 |
| Nov. 13 | Team 2, Food Pantry 11/16  Regular Meeting 11/14 @ 9:30 AM,  Giving Tree Cards Distribution at all Masses 11/19 and 20 |
| Nov. 20 | Team 3, No Scheduled Food Pantry due to Thanksgiving 11/23  Giving Tree Cards Distribution at all Masses 11/25 and 26 |
| Nov. 27 | Team 4, Food Pantry 11/30  Regular Meeting 11/28 @ 3:30 PM DH  Giving Tree Card Assembly on Sunday 12/3 noon to 3:00 PM in Masterson |
| Dec. 4 | Team 1, Food Pantry 12/7 including Giving Tree Distribution |
| Dec. 11 | Team 2, Food Pantry 12/14 @ 3:00 PM including Giving Tree Distribution  Regular Meeting 12/12 @ 9:30 AM |
| Dec. 18 | Team 3, Food Pantry 12/21 |
| Dec. 25 | Team 4, Food Pantry 12/28 |
| Apr. 16, 2024 | Ozanam Orientation, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM in Delaney Hall |
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1. **Closing Prayer; Adjournment**