St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Ann, Bethany Beach Conference 

Meeting Minutes

Date December 12, 2023

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| Next meeting: |  | Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 9:30AM in Delaney Hall |
|  |  | Tuesday, January 23 at 3:30PM in Delaney Hall |

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

Carol opened the meeting at 9:30AM; Mary Ann Conlon led the opening prayer.

Carol asked those present to keep in their prayers those members and their families who are struggling with health issues, including David Gormley and Peggy Campion; also, Connie Ryan, who is still ill, although much improved.

1. **Welcome**

Four new members were welcomed to the conference.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

There were no minutes for the November meeting, at which there was a video presentation of John Foppe’s address at the most recent National meeting.

1. **Treasurer Report**
2. We have opened up a $25K CD with existing funds, in order to maximize the return on our account.
3. With Peggy Campion’s illness, we were in need of a bookkeeper to help with our financial tracking. Marty Malarkey has volunteered to take up that task.
4. **Updates**
   1. Ministerium
      1. Virginia Giuffre was absent due to illness and was not able to present an update.
   2. Pastoral Council
      1. No meeting until January.
   3. Food Pantry
      1. Tom Hill reported that we are providing/distributing sips and snacks for students at Selbyville Middle School. Food Lion has donated 600 boxes of snacks, with 6 items in each box.
      2. This fall, efforts by our gleaning team acquired watermelons, apples, potatoes, and corn for distribution to our neighbors.
      3. Based on recommendations from the Delaware Food Bank, we are no longer re-packaging 2 pound bags of rice for distribution. Instead we will be purchasing and distributing 3 pound bags as is.
   4. Garden Team
      1. Last harvest date for the garden still scheduled to be November 16.
   5. Neighbor Contact
      1. Both Pyle and First State have exhausted their funds for the year; neither are scheduling appointments until January.
      2. Alternatives:
         1. Pyle has no rent monies, but does have some limited funds to assist with electric utilities.
         2. Other local area churches and the Ministerium may be able to assist.
         3. Catholic Charities can assist with electric bills.
         4. Christian Storehouse is still able to help with $150 in assistance for rent and electric.
      3. If you receive any calls for Christmas gifts, please direct the caller’s information to Carol. She’ll be able to distribute any overage we had from the Giving Tree project.
   6. Visiting Vincentians
      1. Peg Campion is at home recuperating; we’ll be asking for volunteers to hel prepare and deliver meals to she and her husband during January, on a team-by-team basis
      2. While she is recuperating, Nancy Herrmann has asked if anyone is able to assist as a team co-leader; if so, please contact Nancy directly.
      3. Lenore Thommes has been bringing left over food to homebound neighbors. Her driving is restricted, though, and she will need someone to assist with the driving. Contact Lenore if you are able to assist.
   7. Extended Care
      1. Kathy Wilkerson is having serious problems with afternoon after-care for her two daughters. There is a gap of 30min from when the bus drops them off at home to when Kathy returns home from her job. The state has become involved, since they are both special needs and are being left unsupervised for that half hour. We may need to ask for volunteers to provide that supervision, if there is no other resolution.
   8. Building
      1. Carol has acquired professional business cards, letterhead, and envelopes for the conference, to assist with fund raising or other official communications related to our proposed building project or other purposes.
      2. We do not have approval from the diocese to move ahead, but Fr. Klevence is optimistic about us being able to obtain that; and has asked us to move ahead with the approval process.
      3. Tish spoke with the Vicar General Msgr. Hurley and he is open to having a conversation directed toward gaining his approval. Before the project is submitted to the bishop for his approval, we’ll need to be able to ensure 40% of the cost up front.
      4. The Long Range Planning committee will not be in a position to help; it considers this a separate project outside their scope of responsibility.
      5. One legal issue to be addressed is whether or not our conference can own the building if the diocese owns the land.
      6. If the project progresses to the point of actual fund raising, the diocese will help us with that process.
      7. Spirituality
5. **Upcoming Events**

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| Jan. 8 | Team 2, Food Pantry 1/11 @ 3:00 PM  Regular Meeting 1/9 @ 9:30 AM  DH  **Giving Tree Evaluation Meeting at 11:00 AM** |
| Jan. 15 | Team 3, Food Pantry 1/18  **Jan. 16 Building Group Meeting, Masterson at 1:00 PM** |
| Jan. 22 | Team 4, Food Pantry  Regular Meeting 1/23 @ 3:30 PM DH  **Team Leader Meeting at 2:00 PM in DH** |
| Jan. 29 | Team 1, Food Pantry 2/1 |
| Feb. 5 | Team 2, Food Pantry 2/8 @ 3:00 PM  **Souper Bowl Party 2/9 5:00PM to 8:00PM** |
| Feb. 12 | Team 3, Food Pantry 2/15  Regular Meeting 2/13 @ 9:30 AM DH |
| Feb. 19 | Team 4, Food Pantry 2/22 |
| Feb. 26 | Team 1, Food Pantry 2/29  Regular Meeting 2/27 @ 3:30 PM DH |
| Mar. 4 | Team 2, Food Pantry 3/7 |
| Mar. 11 | Team 3, Food Pantry 3/14 @ 3:00 PM  Regular Meeting 3/12 @ 9:30 AM in DH |
| Mar. 18 | Team 4, Food Pantry 3/21 |
| Mar. 25 | Team 1, Food Pantry 3/28,  Regular meeting 3/26 @ 3:30 PM in DH |
| Mar. 31 | Team 2, Food Pantry April 4 @ 8:00 AM |
| Apr. 1 | Team 3, Food Pantry 4/4 @ 8:00 AM |
| Apr. 8 | Team 4, Food Pantry 4/11 @ 3:00 PM  Regular Meeting 4/9 @ 9:30 AM in DH |
| Apr. 15 | Team 1, Food Pantry 4/18 @ 8:00 AM  Ozanam Orientation 4/16 Delaney Hall 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM |
| Apr. 22 | Team 2, Food Pantry 4/25 @ 8:00 AM  Regular Meeting 4/23 @ 3:30 PM in DH |
| Apr. 29 | Team 3, Food Pantry 5/2 @ 8:00 AM |

1. **Closing Prayer; Adjournment**