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

Meeting Minutes

Date Tuesday March 12, 2024

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| Next meeting: |  | Tuesday, April 9 at 9:30AM in Delaney Hall |
|  |  |  \*\*No meeting on March 26 due to Holy Week\*\* |

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

Carol opened the meeting at 9:30AM and led the opening prayer.

Carol asked that we remember those of our fellow Vincentians and family members who are ill or are recovering from illness, including Betsy Collins, Joe Stiller, Susan Lewis, Peg Campion, Heather Gossart, Connie Ryan.

1. **Welcome**

Three new members were welcomed to the conference today.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for the February 13 meeting were approved by a voice vote.

1. **Ministerium Update**
2. Tish reported that the Ministerium is holding a Yard Sale/Bazaar at Mariner’s Bethel on April 13. Proceeds will benefit the emergency fund.
3. **Pastoral Council Update**
4. Pastoral Council is meeting this evening; no report at this time.
5. **Other Parish Groups**
	1. Men’s club will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast at the end of April.
	2. Sodality thanks parishioners for supporting their Home of the Brave collection
	3. A “Mary’s Way of the Cross” will be hosted by the Walking with Purpose ministry.
6. **Financial Report**
7. The monthly report is attached.
8. Deb is looking for a new co-treasurer, in Peggy Campion’s absence. Helen Simmons has volunteered to assist for the time being; Marty Malarkey will continue to advise.
9. Our recent acquisition of a credit card has had problems, due to the relatively low borrowing limit. We need more history to request/receive an upgrade to that amount.
10. Proposal was made that we set up a separate Finance Council to help manage those affairs.
11. **Team Reports**
	1. Garden Teram
		1. The growing season has started; volunteers are reminded that the team will be meeting each Monday and Wednesday at 8 AM.
		2. The garden will not be expanded this year; however, the mix of plantings will be tweaked to better meet our neighbor’s needs.
		3. We have had a couple of volunteers join the Garden Team from our neighbors.
	2. Food Pantry Team
		1. A “Thanks!” to all who have donated or helped out with the donations for the Selbyville MS.
		2. The monthly Pantry Newsletter will be forthcoming.
		3. A gleaning volunteer sign-up sheet is circulating
		4. We have started giving out more to families that have 6 or more members. We’ll continue for a month, then evaluate.
	3. Neighbor Contact
		1. NCT members are asked to stay after for a short meeting with the Extended Care team leadership, to discuss process for evaluating neighbors who may need their services.
	4. Visiting Vincentians
		1. Dan is putting together a form for reporting visits/hours, similar to what the Pantry and NCT teams use.
		2. We’re planning on developing a flyer announcing the VV service.
	5. Extended Care
		1. See Neighbor Contact item above.
	6. Fundraising
		1. Thank you’s to all who made the Souper Bowl Party and raffle a success. We realized almost $6,000 from the raffle.
		2. The Bethany Blues Dine ‘n Donate collected over $1,200.
		3. We will be meeting re the Dine ‘n Donate is scheduled for the Cottage Cafe on May 15.
	7. Breaking Bread Fiesta
		1. Based on our experience with using parish tables and chairs last year, we will be renting those items this year, to eliminate the transportation back and forth.
12. **President’s Remarks**
13. We were offered a $1/year lease on the pole-barn structure across the street from OLG. Electric, well, and septic hookups are available already. However, DelDOT will mandate major work be done for both entrance and exit to the property, which will put it out of consideration.
14. Working with Georgia on planning an originally planned OLG extension that will provide facilities to meet our needs and those of other parish groups. Met with Mikens to start giving them our requirements, including a 200-person assembly/dining area.
15. **Spirituality**
	1. Presented a video which gave an overview of Frederic Ozanam’s social ministry as it related to the development of Pope Leo XIII encyclical ***Rerum Novarum,*** which set the foundations of the Catholic Church’s social doctrines.
16. **Upcoming Events**

Mar. 14 - Food Pantry 3/14 @ 3:00 PM

Mar. 18 – Team 4

Mar. 21 - Food Pantry

Mar. 25 – Team 1

Mar. 26 - Regular meeting cancelled due to Holy Week

Mar. 28 – Food Pantry

Apr. 1 – Team 2

Apr. 4 - Food Pantry

Apr. 8 – Team 3

Apr. 9 – Regular Meeting @ 9:30 AM Delaney Hall

Apr. 10 – Feast of Frederic Ozanam

Apr. 11 – Food Pantry @ 3:00 PM

Apr. 13 – 5:30 PM Mass at OLG for Re-Commitment

Apr. 15 – Team 4

Apr. 18 – Food Pantry

Apr. 22 – Team 1

Apr. 23 – Regular Meeting @ 3:30 PM Delaney Hall

Apr. 25 – Food Pantry

Apr. 29 – Team 2

May 2 – Food Pantry

May 6 – Team 3

May 9 – Food Pantry @3:00 PM

May 13 – Team 4

May 14 – Regular Meeting @ 9:30 AM DH

May 15 – Cottage Café Dine and Donate for SVDP

May 16 – Food Pantry

May 20 – Team 1

May 23 – Food Pantry

1. **Closing Prayer; Adjournment**