

Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

May 15, 2017, 7:00PM, Oscar Romero Room

Present: Julie Haas, Doreen Berg, Mary Ross, Deacon Ron Smith, Lynn Franco, Barb Moore, Cynthia Shriver

Recorded by: Cynthia Shriver

SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE

- A. Call to Order – Mary called the meeting to order.
- B. Opening prayer. Ron led the opening prayer.
- C. Welcome, introductions. None.
- D. In- Service- Ron led a lengthy discussion around stewardship as an important part of discipleship.

BUSINESS MEETING

- A. The March minutes were approved by consensus.
- B. Thank you notes:
 - Boys & Girls Club – for \$250
 - Story County Dental Clinic – for \$150 & \$350
 - Ames Ecumenical Housing - for \$250
 - Primary Health Care – for \$100 April 19
- C. New business – None.
- D.
 1. Respect Life and Social Justice formation: dbqarch.org/rlsj/formation.
<https://www.dbqarch.org/offices/respect-life/respect-life-and-social-justice-formation-for-all/>. A June meeting is anticipated. No details yet.
 2. Individual Assistance guidelines. The Wednesday meeting with Father Jim, Deacon Ron, and Mary will likely be postponed.
 3. Klingseis estate. No new information.
 4. Honduras Coffee sales will again be offered at St. Cecilia's next month.
 5. Pictorial Directory – Doreen. Two more days were added for the Pictorial Directory. The parish's roster information will be updated.
 6. Need board member or representatives for AMOS. A meeting is scheduled for June 12 at the First Baptist Church.
 7. Pastoral Council – Sarah. No report.
 8. Financial reports – Becca. No report.
 9. Parishioners' assistance – Sarah and Jarret. Sarah is working on the guidelines.
 10. Committee reports:
 - a. Good Samaritan Fund/Food Pantry donation: **289** pounds in April. Lynn will ask the couples who are delivering the food to MICA if they wish to continue. A suggestion was made to look to the school for help.
 - b. Hunger Collaboration – Doreen reported that since 2010-11 year, information tracked by the Department of Education and UW, indicates that there has been a 16% increase in Story County children who qualify for free or reduced lunches. The newly opened north Walmart will continue to provide fresh produce as well as none-perishable items to the Bethesda Food Pantry and to the Salvation Army. In the last 13 months, 20.5 to 58.4% of the meal gap in Story County has been met monthly. The Live United Food Drive committee is working to get displays at different businesses prior to and during the drive which we be held April 24 to May 4. Word needs to get out that MICA had a refrigerator and that they accept perishable items.
 - c. Food at First –Doreen stated that the average number of individuals being served meals at FAF is 57.5 meals per day for the first quarter of this year.
 - d. Good Neighbor – Over \$12,000 was raised at the Good Neighbor 20 year celebration. St. Cecilia received an Outstanding Faith Member award.
 - e. Restorative Justice - Barb. The Butterfly House has two residents. There are three candidates who were interviewed and do qualify for the program. Since the house can accommodate only four residents at a time, the openings will be filled based on release time.

There is currently no house mother but volunteers are there at night. Regarding the Story County Jail Ministry, Barb said that there have recently been several participants.

- f. Individual Assistance-Ron stated that the family we have been helping is now officially on disability. Ron received a \$2,500.00 donation earmarked for his ministry.
 - g. Emergency Residence Project – Julie reported. Computer services are being updated. One furnace needs to be replaced according to the City Of Ames inspection report. Because the shelter is full, four to five motel rooms are being used each night at the Ames Motor Lodge. The weekly rate on the two permanently rented rooms will increase from \$274 a week to \$300 due to damage caused by the clients. Carrie met with the owners of the lodge to discuss revamping it into permanent housing efficiency apartments. The owners will draft some more information about what they would like to see happen to the property and Carrie will talk with the city about this possibility as well as looking into what would classify as an efficiency apartment. The Harvest of Blessings matching grant has arrived and STC matched it with \$500. The Rotary grant was not awarded for Phase 1 of the backyard renovation. An \$8,600 grant was submitted to UW for Phase 2 but it cannot be acted upon until Phase 1 is viable. A \$3,000 grant for bathroom renovations was submitted to STA.
 - h. AMOS. No report.
 - i. Sanctity of Life – Garland. No report.
 - j. Rice Bowl - Cynthia reported that as of May 15 \$3,121.04 has been donated. There may be more donations that trickle in this month. This year's total is much improved compared to last year.
 - k. Home for Awhile – Mary will check with Becca about the possibility of increasing our monthly contribution for Home for Awhile.
 - l. Days for Girls – Mary. The meetings are very well attended.
- E. Other. Mary will check with Father Jim regarding the possibility of holding a workshop on Creation Care Teams based on Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si - The Care of Our Common Home*.
- F. Prayer/Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned with a prayer for Char's granddaughter, Victoria.