

Saint Cecilia Social Justice Minutes

July 17, 2017, 7:00PM, Oscar Romero Room

Present: Mary Ross, Julie Haas, Phyllis Craig, Deacon Ron Smith, Doreen Berg, Barb Moore, Judy Maly, Frank Maly, Cynthia Shriver

Recorded by: Cynthia Shriver

SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE

- A. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM.
- B. Opening prayer-Ron led the opening prayer, Prayer to St. Raphael, Angel.
- C. Welcome, introductions. Judy and Frank Maly

D. In- Service- In place of an in-service, we encourage members to attend the Laudato Si presentation on July 19 and/or the NFP presentation on July 26.

BUSINESS MEETING

- A. June minutes. Approved by consensus.
- B. New business
 1. Home for Awhile - Bill & Julie Haas have agreed to rent one of their duplex apartments to *Home for Awhile* for a reduced cost. By consensus (via email) the committee agreed to fund the rent, utilities, and deposit for a year from the \$20,000.00 bequest SJ received. Thank you, Julie and Bill.
- C. Old business
 1. Fr. Farrell – July 19 at 7PM, Oscar Romero Room: *Laudato Si- The Care of Our Common Home* and disparity of wealth. If there are too many people in attendance, the room will be changed.
 2. Respect Life and Social Justice Formation: July 26. dbqarch.org/rlsj/formation. <https://www.dbqarch.org/offices/respect-life/respect-life-and-social-justice-formation-for-all/> This is the natural planning series from the diocese. There will be a table and a display this weekend encouraging people to attend.
 3. Klingseis estate. No new information.
 4. Need board member or representatives for AMOS.
 5. Pastoral Council – Sarah. No report.
 6. Financial reports; Budget – Becca. No report.
 7. Parishioners’ assistance – Sarah and Jarrett. No report
 8. Committee reports:
 - a. Good Samaritan Fund/Food Pantry donation: **290.5** pounds in June. The food collection in June was low. July’s was higher. (360 pounds)
 - b. Hunger Collaboration – Doreen. The breakfast and lunch school program is doing well.
 - c. Food at First –Doreen. The board is working on defining length of terms for board members. FAF received a \$25,000.00 gift which will be used for air conditioning the downstairs.
 - d. Good Neighbor – Phyllis. The Tuscan dinner will be on August 19. The annual choir concert, which STC is hosting, will be on November 5. Phyllis will join the Executive Committee as Vice President of the Board.

- e. Restorative Justice - Barb. The Saturday jail ministry program is going well. A St. Thomas parishioner will join the Saturday group and Barb will be his mentor. Regarding the Butterfly House, there is currently one resident.
 - f. Individual Assistance – Ron is keeping up with individual assistance records with Simone. The individual from the Ivory Coast, whom we have helped, is moving to Des Moines. His work permit needs to be renewed. There are many requests for individual assistance. Ron is dealing with the requests with help from parish donors who are donating to Individual Assistance.
 - g. Emergency Residence Project – Julie. Carrie is updating the required documents. She is getting married and will now be Carrie Moser. Reggie’s Sleepout raised \$20,174.00. The transitional housing coordinator will be phasing out and Carrie is looking for a replacement. The position is expected to be for 20-30 hours per week. Eight men from the Knights of Columbus came to the shelter on July 1 and performed various tasks. Thank you to the Knights for all they do.
 - h. AMOS. No report.
 - i. Sanctity of Life – Garland. No written report.
 - j. Home for Awhile – Mary reported that there were 7 applicants for a single apartment. The need continues to be great.
- D. Days for Girls – Mary. There were 19 participants at last week’s Tuesday meeting. The founder for Days for Girls (Celeste Mergens) will be in Des Moines on August 23 and 24. There will be an opportunity to hear her speak. For more information please contact Mary.
- E. Other Business. Ron was contacted by Nancy Heideman and told that Ames Interfaith Refugee Alliance is helping a refugee from the South Sudan. Any financial assistance would be appreciated. Ron directed them to John and Carol Nelson who have worked with Sudanese families. For more information, please contact Deacon Ron. Regarding *Martha’s House of Hope*, SJ committee members agreed that is a very worthwhile program. We will wait until specifics are known before making a decision about donating funds. We also need to know if, as a STC affiliated committee, can we donate to them. (The program is not officially connected to STC but it has a strong Catholic component).
- F. Prayer/Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM with a prayer.